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REGIS WRITES ABOUT THE CELEBS WHO SHAPED HIS LIFE {page 53}

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B.C. businesses hot for .XXX domain names

BC Ferries and SFU have purchased domain names to protect against fraud, lewd content

Local companies and universities are snatching up newly released suggestive domain names to avoid potential embarrassing situations in the future.

BC Ferries and SFU are two organizations that have purchased their .xxx domains so as to prevent Internet "squatters" from linking their company with lewd content.

"BC Ferries is family-oriented and we don't want to be associated with the adult-entertainment industry," said Deborah Marshall, director of media relations at BC Ferries.

According to SFU chief information officer Jay Black, registering sfu.xxx, simonfraseruniversity.xxx and other related aliases was an obvious and automatic step in defending the university.

"It was a defensive measure. The only way to protect the interest of SFU is to spend a small amount of money to do that," said Black. "My staff had already done it before I was aware of it."

He estimated the cost to be $150 a year to purchase unused domains — a small price to pay to protect the reputation of the university and its students, he added.

Both SFU and BC Ferries have no intention of using their domain names.

Florida-based ICM Registry began allowing the public to buy .xxx website extensions on Tuesday. The website claims the .xxx designation will allow Internet surfers to clearly identify adult-entertainment sites.

As of Dec. 7, the website has registered 159,351 new domains.

KENDRA WONG

Buying into it

Domain names that have been purchased:

- Canucks.xxx
- WhitecapsFC.xxx
- ubc.xxx
- bcit.xxx
- metrovancouver.xxx

Domain names that have not been purchased:

- cityofvancouver.xxx
- bclions.xxx
- langara.xxx
- bcplace.xxx
- provinceofbc.xxx

▶ Screen grab of icmregistry.com, which recently began allowing the public to by .xxx website extensions.

Local MP attacks shark-fin trade

NDP's Fin Donnelly introduces bill to ban imports {page 4}

Russia

Medvedev retweets smut

Online persona no longer bland **Targeting of opposition figure sparks major attention** {page 16}

Sports

Canucks win in shootout

Beat Canadiens 4-3 **8th win in 9 games** {page 60}

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JEFF HODSON/METRO FILE

▶ A model displays outfits by Vancouver-based label Obakki during a photoshoot on the deck of the historic St. Roch vessel at the Vancouver Maritime Museum in April 2005. A report to city council says the leaky museum is putting the historic vessel at risk.

Leaky building endangering historical artifact: Vancouver Maritime Museum director
Council to vote Tuesday on $902,000 funding for upgrades to facility housing St. Roch vessel

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

A piece of Canadian Arctic history is in danger of rotting away.

The leaky facility housing the first vessel to circumnavigate North America is not providing the proper environmental conditions for preserving it, says Simon Robinson, executive director of the Vancouver Maritime Museum.

He said a funding reallocation awaiting city-council approval will help with the historical St. Roch's long-term preservation.

"The building has been leaking for quite some time," he said. "There's water coming in on the south end from the roof directly above the ship. At some points, when you come in, you'll see buckets spread all over the building."

"The St. Roch is one of the four great Arctic explorer vessels in the world in existence," he added. "It is a national treasure and an icon of Canadian Arctic sovereignty."

"(The St. Roch) is a national treasure and an icon of Canadian Arctic sovereignty."
SIMON ROBINSON, VANCOUVER MARITIME MUSEUM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The RCMP schooner, which was built in 1928 as a supply ship for isolated Arctic RCMP detachments, was the first ship to travel the Northwest Passage from west to east.

Robinson said the city-owned building, which the ship acquired as its permanent indoor home in 1966, is in serious need of a new fire suppression system within the ship and a skylight glazing replacement.

"The building where the ship is contained ideally should have humidity control and have stable and constant temperature," he said. "The shelter right now has fire suppression on the exterior side, but it's not the optimal way of looking after the vessel."

The ship has dry rot in the hold and stern, he added, and the leaking destabilizes any work they do to address the issue.

A report coming to council Tuesday is recommending a funding reallocation of $902,000 that will enable upgrades to the facility housing the St. Roch vessel.

1 news

The theft of $17,000 worth of gift certificates adds insult to the still-fresh injury of flood victims in Quebec. Scan the code for the story.

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On the web at metronews.ca

Scouts Canada offers public apology to all former members who suffered abuse at the hands of volunteer leaders. Video at metronews.ca/video

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Fin finished with finning

- Local MP Fin Donnelly introduces bill to outlaw shark fin imports
- Calls it 'critical issue' as many species face extinction

RYAN PIERSE/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A Great White Shark swims in Shark Alley near Dyer Island on July 8, 2010 in Gansbaai, South Africa.

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

Importing and exporting of shark-fin products need to be banned in Canada, according to a local MP.

New Westminster-Coquitlam and Port Moody MP Fin Donnelly, the NDP's fisheries critic, introduced a private member's bill in the House of Commons yesterday aimed at squashing the country's shark-fin trade.

"This is a critical issue," he said. "One-third of all shark species are threatened with extinction. There are up to 20 species that could be become extinct by 2017."

As many as 73 million shark fins are imported to Canada each year, primarily used in traditional Chinese shark fin soup.

All the while, global shark populations continue to plummet.

"Sharks play a vital role in the ecosystem," Donnelly said. "As before, with killing elephants for ivory tusks and whaling, people are getting passionate about this."

A recent poll found that 84 per cent of British Columbians support a ban on shark-fin products.

Seventy-six per cent of Chinese Canadians polls also supported the ban, Donnelly said.

"Public support is pretty overwhelming, the government would be remiss not to consider (the bill)," he said.

The question remains whether the government will get on board.

Donnelly's bill has the support of his NDP caucus and the Green party as well.

The MP is still waiting to hear back from the Liberals and is trying to win over the Conservatives.

"I just want the Prime Minister to keep an open mind," Donnelly said. "There's a high level of support for dealing with this issue of shark conservation. I'm hoping Canada can become a world leader on this."

Donnelly has also launched a public petition against finning on his website, findonnelly.ca.

Orange crush floods Vancouver

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ New Democratic Party interim leader Nycole Turmel

Don't be surprised if political views are filtered through orange-tinted glasses this weekend.

That's because provincial and federal New Democrats are converging on Vancouver for the B.C. NDP's 50th anniversary convention.

The three-day event, at the Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre, starts Friday and features a 50th birthday party, federal leadership race town hall and speeches from provincial leader Adrian Dix and interim federal Opposition leader Nycole Turmel.

The New Democratic Party was established in B.C. in 1961, having previous existed as the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and the New Party.

MATT KIELTYKA

Man accused of hospital sex assault

A North Vancouver man with a lengthy criminal history is facing charges after an alleged sexual attack on a female patient in a New Westminster hospital.

New Westminster police said Thursday they are recommending sex-assault charges against Aaron Edward Abernathy, 29, who is alleged to have touched the woman in a sexual manner last Friday at Royal Columbian Hospital.

New Westminster police say the suspect was detained by hospital staff until police arrived. The alleged victim was not injured.

The suspect's court records show dozens of files dating back to 2002 including breach of probation, drug charges, theft, break-and-enter, indecent acts in public space and mischief.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS

Delta teacher charged in alleged sex assault

A 43-year-old teacher has been charged in the alleged sexual assault of a young girl on Delta Secondary School grounds last month.

Robin Wait, 43, is now facing two counts of sexual interference of a person under 16 and two charges of sexual assault stemming from the alleged Nov. 4 incident, and a previous alleged incident in May.

On Nov. 4, police were called to the high school, where a young girl told investigators that an unknown adult had sexually assaulted her near the school gym. Wait was arrested two days later. The girl was not a student at the school.

Wait, who taught English and had coached the Delta Pacers basketball senior and junior boys team, was immediately suspended with pay upon his arrest.

Delta School District spokesperson Deneka Michaud said the district will launch its own internal investigation of the accusations once they get the go ahead from police.

Wait has been released on bail under various conditions. He has been ordered not to contact any of the alleged victims or any witnesses, and not to work or volunteer in a position that involves persons under the age of 16.

Delta Police said they have continued to work with the Delta Board of Education throughout the investigation to ensure the safety of the students.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS

Lululemon on the run

One more marathon can't hurt.

Vancouver-based yoga wear company Lululemon plans to hold a half-marathon in the city Aug. 11.

The inaugural event, pending city approval, is planned to have a route going through the West End, Coal Harbour, Chinatown, Strathcona, N.E. False Creek and Kitsilano.

METRO

Tour de Gastown plots comeback

The Gastown Business Improvement Association has applied to bring back the Tour de Gastown bicycle race in 2012.

According to Tuesday's city council agenda, the race is schedule to return July 11 with an expected attendance of 30,000 people.

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B.C. rocker's song for daughter climbs charts

- Pray (for LJ) is most-downloaded rock single and number six in Canada
- Singer hopes fellow Canuck rockers Nickelback will match donations

FACEBOOK.COM

▶ Chilliwack rockers Pardon My Striptease.

DANIEL PALMER
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

A rock band from Chilliwack has been winning hearts and climbing charts after releasing a song to raise funds for the lead singer's daughter.

One-year-old Lilee-Jean was diagnosed Oct. 20 with an aggressive brain cancer called glioblastoma and she has already undergone surgery and two bouts of chemotherapy at B.C. Children's Hospital.

"It's been pretty crazy and I'm just really thankful we got to come home last night," said Andrew Putt, lead singer of Pardon My Striptease.

"We'll be going back in tomorrow morning."

Putt said the song, Pray (for LJ), had been written and recorded before he and wife, Chelsea Whittle, discovered Lilee-Jean was ill.

The single knocked Nickelback off top spot in the rock category and was the fifth most-downloaded song on iTunes Canada at press time Thursday.

Putt's band members — Adam Coleman, Erron Sweeney and Dylan Weightman — decided they would release the single and give all proceeds to Lilee-Jean's family.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Lilee-Jean Putt.

But after spending weeks at Children's Hospital in Vancouver, Putt said he and Whittle know the money will be put to good use there.

"Me and Chelsea have decided to give 100 per cent of the proceeds to the Children's Hospital. We just want everyone to know that place needs money, they do so many amazing things for families like ours," he said.

Putt hopes fellow rockers Nickelback will meet the band's challenge to match their donations to Children's Hospital.

"With all this media attention, word will get to them," Putt said.

HANDOUT/METRO FILE

▶ Grant De Patie

De Patie kin pan new WorkSafe regulation

The family of slain gas-station attendant Grant De Patie is outraged and says WorkSafeBC has backtracked on regulations meant to prevent similar deaths.

In the aftermath of De Patie's 2005 dragging death, provincial regulations were stiffened so that late-night employees either had to have a protective barrier between them and customers during transactions or be prevented from working alone.

On Thursday, WorkSafe B.C. added a third option under their regulations, known as "Grant's Law."

The new regulation requires money to be kept in a locked safe during night shifts, with no protection for the employees.

"Grant's death has been relegated back to the cost of doing business," said Doug De Patie, Grant's father.

MATT KIELTYKA

Hockey coach facing new sex allegations

Prince Rupert RCMP are investigating a former minor hockey coach, who already faces sex-related charges in Alberta, after new allegations emerged.

Mounties are looking into Robert John Paolinelli's past coaching and referee activities, while he was associated with the Prince Rupert Minor Hockey Association during the mid-1980s and 1990s.

Forty-two-year-old Paolinelli, who was a former teacher at the St. Thomas Aquinas School in Spruce Grove, Alta., was charged by Stony Plain RCMP in early October with sexual exploitation, sexual assault and forcible confinement.

Mounties in Prince Rupert said they opened their own investigation Oct. 21 after receiving a public complaint.

"We have spoken to one young man who made the difficult decision to speak with investigators, and we believe that there may be others who were (allegedly) victimized by Paolinelli, during his tenure as a hockey coach/referee in Prince Rupert," RCMP Cpl. Dan Moskaluk said in a statement.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS

FIGHTING WORDS

UFC boss riffs on Van riot

UFC boss Dana White downplayed issues with Vancouver authorities but couldn't resist a playful shot when asked about the UFC and the West Coast.

The UFC, which has held two events in B.C., has said Vancouver is not on its 2012 itinerary because of locally imposed insurance and other costs.

"Hopefully I would think that we have proved ourself to the powers that be in Vancouver on what type of event we hold, what type of people show up," said White when asked about Vancouver at the UFC 140 news conference Thursday.

"And let me tell you what doesn't happen. We don't burn the city down after a UFC fight, all right?"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Six years in dragging death

A West Kelowna man has been handed a six-year sentence for the dragging death of another man last New Year's Eve.

George Young will end up serving just two and a half years behind bars, with double credit for time already served. He was charged with second-degree murder but pleaded guilty to criminal negligence causing death after running down Joel Reimer after they argued.

Young was on the run a few days before police caught him on a Greyhound bus in Manitoba.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cops: Inmate was likely murdered

Police say it appears an inmate found dead in his cell at Mission Institution was murdered.

The RCMP say the man was found a week ago.

The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team has since been called in to take over the case.

Investigators are working with prison officials to review the events leading up to the inmate's death and several persons of interest have been identified.

The name of the victim has not officially been released.

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Las Vegas
Air + 2 Nights + 4-Night Cruise from $598 + taxes & fees $179

INCLUDES all airfare, 2 nights Las Vegas accom on the Strip and 4-night cruise sailing from Los Angeles to Vancouver visiting Victoria. **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom and 4-star accom from $33 per night.

China

Beijing Air + 7 Nights 4-Star from $849 + taxes & fees $335

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Family Vacations

Anaheim Air + 4 Nights
from $199◊
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INCLUDES accom near theme parks. Price per person based on family of 4. **ADD** 3-day *Disneyland* Resort *Park Hopper* Bonus Ticket from $197/adult, $175/child (ages 3-9). **UPGRADE** to 4.5-star accom from $8 per night.

Orlando Air + 7 Nights from $499◊ + taxes & fees $132

INCLUDES accom near major attractions. Price per person based on family of 4. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $22 per night. **ADD** 5-day *Walt Disney World* Resort *Magic Your Way* Base Ticket from $290/adult, $268/child (ages 3-9).

Maui Air + 7 Nights from $754◊ + taxes & fees $147

INCLUDES 1-bedroom condo style accom in Kihei. Price per person based on family of 4. **ADD** Haleakala, Central Maui and Iao Valley Tour from $105/adult, $63/child (ages 3-11).

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Group marks 7 years waiting for IBM contract info

Adjudicator sided with the access to information group, not province Court set to review case in March

A B.C. group that lobbies for greater access to information has marked the seven-year wait for data on a government contract with IBM with a birthday cake.

The Freedom of Information and Privacy Association filed the request in 2004 for the $300-million contract for IBM to supply computer-support services for the provincial government.

Vincent Gogolek, executive director of the association, said the B.C. Supreme Court has already ruled in its favour and ordered the province to release uncontentious documents.

"We've been in B.C. Supreme Court twice and there have been a number of commissioner rulings and we've won all of them," Gogolek said in an interview.

However, Margaret MacDiarmid, the province's open government minister, said Gogolek's group is requesting information that could put the private information of B.C. citizens at risk.

Earlier this year, the province handed over much of the documents in dispute, but continues to withhold information on the names of the IBM server and where they are located.

The association also wants a list of the software IBM uses to manage to computer system.

The ministry believes "a mistake has been made" in the privacy commissioner's ruling to release the information and has asked for a judicial review, MacDiarmid said.

"The concern (is) that government systems would be made vulnerable to people hacking into them," she said. "That's the worry, a worry of a very significant security risk."

However, the information and privacy commissioner's office disagreed.

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B.C. registry to probe patients on impact of MS 'liberation' therapy

British Columbia has launched a patient registry to better understand the impact — both positive and negative — of a controversial treatment to unblock neck veins in people with MS and to develop the best follow-up care for those who have had the procedure.

The treatment is based on a hypothesis by Italian vascular surgeon Dr. Paolo Zamboni that a condition he dubbed chronic cerebrospinal venous insufficiency, or CCSVI, may be linked to multiple sclerosis.

The theory suggests that narrowed neck veins create a backup of blood that can lead to lesions in the brain and inflammation.

The procedure to widen the veins using balloon angioplasty is not approved in Canada for treating people with MS, but thousands of Canadians have reportedly gone to clinics outside the country for the treatment — only to return home with no plan for follow-up care.

Some patients are treated using stents to prop open their veins. These tubular devices can cause blockages and bleeding, or they can dislodge and migrate, requiring emergency surgery.

Patients with stents must take blood-thinning medications, which also can cause severe complications in some cases.

Data from the BC CCSVI Registry, developed by the UBC Hospital MS Clinic at Vancouver Coastal Health, will help shape treatment guidelines for ongoing care and identify risks to patients who participate in future clinical trials of the procedure in Canada.

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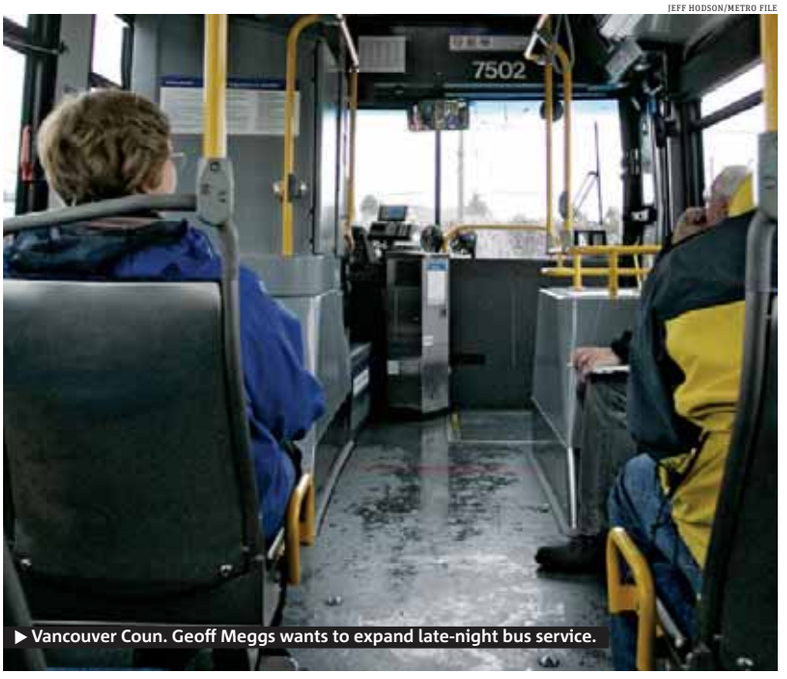

▶ Vancouver Coun. Geoff Meggs wants to expand late-night bus service.

Transit's next stop: Late-night service

- Councillor to introduce service-expanding motion
- TransLink plan could provide later operation, city says

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

Late-night bus service on weekends is one of the first items Vancouver's new council will tackle next week.

Coun. Geoff Meggs is set to introduce a motion Tuesday calling for staff to work directly with TransLink to find ways of expanding late-night bus services, and even SkyTrain operating hours, in and out of the downtown core.

Calls for expanded night service have echoed for years, but Meggs says the newest TransLink service plan contains more service hours that can be directed where needed and the councillor hopes the transit authority sees the issue as a regional one.

"We can't just get everybody into a cab," Meggs said. "With the tougher new drunk-driving rules, which I support, we need to help give people more options to get home. In the past TransLink has been constrained financially but now the service hours are there."

Expanded night service was one of Mayor Gregor Robertson and Vision Vancouver's election campaign promises.

Task force aims to lure skilled immigrants

The B.C. government is setting up a task force aimed at boosting the number of skilled immigrants and investors coming to the province.

Premier Christy Clark says skilled immigrants will be needed to help fill more than one million job openings expected in B.C. over the next decade.

She says the task force headed by Richmond Liberal MLA John Yap will review the effectiveness of all of B.C.'s current immigration programs and make recommendations on how to improve them.

Yap says skilled people all over the world want to come to B.C. and the aim of the task force is to make it easier for them to emigrate.

The nine-member task force will begin its work immediately and submit a final report by the end of next March.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

No chance of teacher deal by year's end

It appears there's no chance B.C. teachers and their employers will reach a deal on a contract before the end of the year. The two sides have been negotiating since the fall when teachers began limited strike action, but B.C. Teachers Federation President Susan Lambert says they're no closer to an agreement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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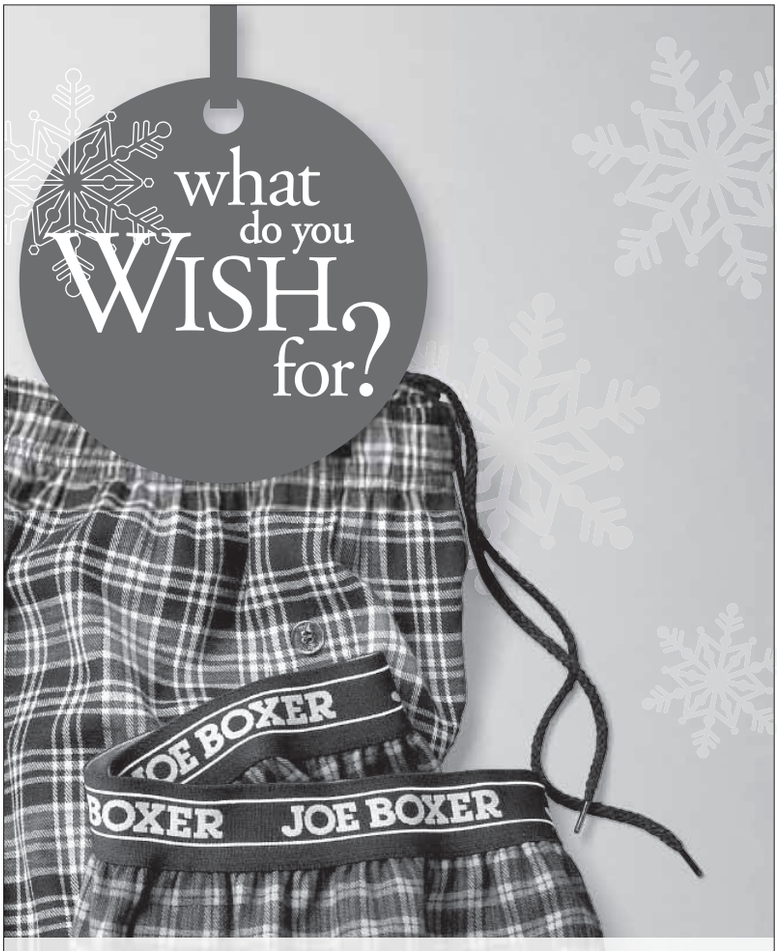

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▶ Connor Mikkonen, who lives in Vancouver's Athlete Village, received a $148 bill.

Athlete Village plays spoilsport

Low-income tenants claim they are being charged $50 to $148 on top of monthly z bills

KENDRA WONG
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

Vancouver's Athlete Village is again the centre of controversy.

More than 20 low-income tenants occupying apartments in the former Olympic Village are facing unexpected utility bills equal to 10 per cent of some tenants' monthly income.

These apartments were advertised as affordable, sustainable, net-zero houses, meaning they generate as much energy as they use.

Despite promises that utility bills would cost next to nothing, tenants claim they received bills from Enerpro, a local utility company, ranging from $50 to $148 a month for heat and water use, on top of monthly BC Hydro bills.

"We're grateful for what we have, but can't afford these Enerpro bills," said Connor Mikkonen, a tenant living on a $1,300 combined monthly income with his wife.

Occupants also claim the bills were not included in the Residential Tenant Agreement they initially signed when they moved in.

However, COHO Property Management executive director Tom Armstrong says this simply is not true. "There were boxes that were checked if heat and water were covered," said Armstrong. "In nearly all instances the boxes weren't checked."

He also noted that none of the tenants have not "paid a nickel" for water since they moved in.

Lawyer Scott Bernstein from Pivot Legal Society is compiling affidavits from tenants to seek a legal opinion.

CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE

Charges laid in houseboat accident

Chase RCMP have laid charges in a fatal houseboating accident last year that killed a man and injured eight others.

Police said Leon Michael Reinbrecht, 49, will appear Jan. 19 on charges of criminal negligence causing death and criminal negligence causing bodily harm.

The accident occurred July 3, 2010, when a speedboat collided with a privately owned houseboat.

Thirteen people were onboard the 12-metre houseboat at the time and the operator, Ken Brown, was killed.

Cpl. Dan Moskaluk said the accident should serve as a reminder to all boat operators to secure a licence during the offseason.

DANIEL PALMER

Police shoot cougar at Swartz Bay

Police say they were forced to shoot a cougar that had been lurking at the Swartz Bay ferry terminal north of Victoria.

RCMP Cpl. Chris Swain says ferry company staff spotted the animal.

When police found the cougar underneath a building they decided to shoot it out of safety concerns. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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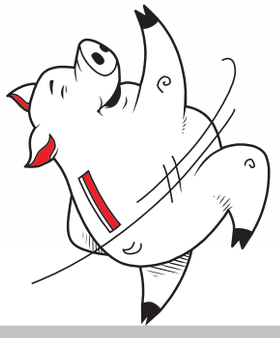

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SUBMITTED/REDBULL

▶ Hedley Tuscano – a.k.a. DJ Hedspin – will represent Canada and compete against 17 other countries next week at the Redbull Thre3style World Finals in Vancouver.

Hedspin to rep Canada at DJ event

18 international DJs will compete in the Redbull Thre3style World Finals in Vancouver

DANIEL PALMER
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

Some of the world's best DJs are hitting Vancouver next week for the Redbull Thre3style World Finals with a local legend representing Canada.

Hedley Tuscano — a.k.a. DJ Hedspin — started mastering turntables in and around his hometown of New Westminster in the mid-1990s.

"House parties, local wedding gigs and high school dances. I was big into the mobile DJ thing," said Tuscano.

Now in its second year of international competition, the event brings together 18 national winners from around the globe.

Each DJ competes by mixing at least three different musical genres in 15 minutes and is judged on track selection, technical skills, creativity and their ability to tear up the dance floor.

Last week, Hedspin knocked friend and fellow Eh! Team partner Drastik off the throne at the Thre3style nationals in Toronto.

"Our goal was to sweep the nation together. It didn't matter who came first or second, it just happened to be me," said Tuscano.

Hedspin will battle Argentina's Robert Moreno, India's DJ Dippy and Spain's Bitcode Dec. 14 at Venue.

"I'm just gonna do what I always do, have an aggressive style and keep it unpredictable. This set's gonna be pretty crazy," Tuscano said.

The winners of each nightly event will compete for the crown Dec. 17 at Commodore Ballroom.

For complete listings, check out redbull.ca.

Review Chinese mine safety: Steelworkers

The United Steelworkers Union says the B.C. government should review the safety standards of Chinese coal-mining companies before allowing them to operate in the province.

During her recent trade mission to China, Premier Christy Clark announced agreements with Chinese companies to invest in two coal-mining projects in B.C.

Steelworkers Union director Stephen Hunt says Chinese coal mines have the worst safety record in the industry, with explosions, cave-ins and floods killing 2,400 workers last year alone.

He says he's dismayed the B.C. government seems to think Chinese firms provide a good model for running safe underground mines, and he wants a full review of any Chinese coal company that wants to invest in B.C.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Deceased had hard life: Friend

A 25-year-old Kamloops woman who died behind the wheel of a stolen vehicle this week was not unfamiliar with adversity.

Jennifer Lynn Munro died when the vehicle she was driving collided with a truck two days ago. Her friend says Munro was a recovering heroin addict and had recently lost a little boy to sudden infant death syndrome. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ The remains of a Canadian flag can be seen flying over a building in Attawapiskat, Ont., on Nov. 29.

Attawapiskat on the hook for consultant

Troubled reserve must pay federally appointed manager $180K Harper defends fees as necessary

The federal government is forcing the troubled Attawapiskat First Nation to pay a private-sector consultant about $1,300 a day to run its finances — even though the government's own assessments say the third-party management system is not cost-effective.

Aboriginal Affairs officials told The Canadian Press they have an agreement to pay Jacques Marion of BDO Canada LLP a total of $180,000 to look after the reserve's accounts from now until June 30.

The money comes from the Attawapiskat First Nation's budget.

That rate over the course of a year would run up to $300,000 and easily pay for at least one nice, solid house, notes Mushkegowuk Grand Chief Stan Louttit.

"What they've done is taken $300,000 out of this band's limited budget for political cover to pay for the mistakes of an incompetent minister."
NEW DEMOCRAT MP CHARLIE ANGUS

"And (Aboriginal Affairs) should pay for this over and above First Nations existing budgets," he said.

Instead, the band will soon find itself cutting off educational assistants and aides for special-needs children in order to scrape together the money to pay the consultant, said New Democrat MP Charlie Angus, whose northern Ontario riding includes Attawapiskat.

But Prime Minister Stephen Harper brushed aside criticism of the fees and requests from the opposition to cover the costs. Harper told the House of Commons the government is just making sure the band council in Attawapiskat stops mismanaging taxpayers' money.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

New RCMP chief looks to women to overhaul force

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson salutes during a change-of-command ceremony welcoming him as the 23rd commissioner in Ottawa on Thursday.

Bringing more women into the RCMP will help strengthen the national police force as it works to stamp out harassment, says the new top Mountie.

After being formally installed as the storied force's 23rd commissioner in a pomp-filled ceremony Thursday, Bob Paulson said he also wants to see more women in the senior ranks.

"My view is, we bring more women into our decision-making process at the executive level, we have a much more representative decision-making body in the force."

He takes over the RCMP amid complaints of bullying and sexual harassment from several members.

Paulson, 52, said the force has already made progress on the issue, starting with an "extraordinary" meeting of the top brass and changes to the way harassment cases are tracked.

"We've centralized the oversight and the management of the process ... so that it affords me and my senior partners the ability to be able to track and monitor just what the cases are and how they're moving on timelines."

Paulson said he's taken measures to increase the number of female recruits at the RCMP training depot in Regina to 35 per cent of the contingent, well above the labour-market availability of 26 or 27 per cent.

"We need to increase women coming into the force."

Several female RCMP officers have come forward since Cpl. Catherine Galliford went public in November with allegations of harassment within the force in British Columbia.

Men have also complained of abusive behaviour and intimidation.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

EXPLOITATION TARGETED

New child porn law puts onus on Internet providers

A new law aimed at curbing child pornography on the Internet is now in force.

The law requires Internet service providers to report tips they get about websites containing child porn.

They also have to tell police if they believe a child porn offence has been committed using their service.

Failure to comply carries fines ranging from $1,000 to $100,000 or jail time for repeat offenders.

Justice Minister Rob Nicholson says the exploitation of children by online sexual predators is a serious crime.

The government says the law balances privacy concerns with the need to tackle the issue.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Co-workers claim $21M jackpot

A jovial bunch of co-workers from Penetanguishene, Ont., picked up a $21-million prize Thursday after winning a Lotto Max jackpot.

Each of the 12 mental-health workers, who said they were all great friends outside of work, will get $1.75 million from the Nov. 25 draw. Most of them said they would be returning to their jobs. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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PETR DAVID JOSEK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has had an obscene characterization of a prominent opposition figure appear on his Twitter account.

Tasteless tweet raises Russia's ire

Offending retweet of a post by United Russia ideologue has been removed from Medvedev's account

President Dmitry Medvedev's affection for going online has turned off-colour after an obscene characterization of a prominent opposition figure appeared on his Twitter account.

Medvedev's tweets are usually bland, such as congratulating victorious sports teams. So the post describing popular opposition figure Alexei Navalny as a sheep engaging in an unprintable sexual act sparked huge attention.

A Kremlin statement says the message, a retweet of a posting by United Russia party ideologue and former parliament member Konstantin Rykov, was posted by an unnamed member of the president's technical staff. It added: "The guilty will be punished."

The post, late Tuesday, came on the second straight day of large demonstrations by protesters over the vote fraud seen in Russia's parliamentary election Sunday.

The post does not mention Navalny by name, but clearly refers to him, denouncing the phrase the "party of crooks and thieves" that Navalny popularized on his blog to characterize United Russia, the country's dominant party.

Navalny was arrested Monday on the first night of protests in Moscow and sentenced to 15 days in jail.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NATO TALKS

Deadlock over missile defence

Russia and NATO remain deadlocked on a long-running dispute over the alliance's plan for a missile shield for Europe, officials said Thursday, and Russia warned that time was running out for an agreement.

NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen reported no progress toward a deal on the contentious issue, following a key discussion among alliance foreign ministers and Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov that came amid political turmoil in Russia and tart criticism of the United States.

Fogh Rasmussen rejected Russian criticism that NATO is ignoring its concerns that the planned missile system might one day be turned on Russia. He left the door open for more talks before the next planned NATO summit in May 2012.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Don't interfere in Syria: Russia

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Thursday that Syrians should be allowed to sort out their country's problems without outside interference.

Lavrov said that Syria should follow the example of Yemen, where longtime President Ali Abdullah Saleh stepped down after a 10-month uprising in exchange for immunity from prosecution.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Policeman killed at Virginia Tech

Gunman found dead in parking lot Campus was quieter as classes ended Wednesday

A gunman killed a Virginia Tech police officer Thursday at a campus parking lot and then apparently shot himself to death nearby in an attack that shook the university nearly five years after it was the scene of the deadliest shooting rampage in modern U.S. history.

Before it became clear that the gunman was dead, the school applied the lessons learned during the last tragedy, locking down the campus and using a high-tech alert system to warn students and faculty members to stay indoors.

The officer, identified late Thursday as 39-year-old Deriek W. Crouse, was killed after pulling a driver over in a traffic stop. The gunman – who was not involved in the traffic stop – walked into the parking lot and ambushed the officer. Police said they did not know what the motive was and were still investigating whether the officer was specifically targeted.

"It's crazy that someone would go and do something like that with all the stuff that happened in 2007."
COREY SMITH, 19-YEAR-OLD SOPHOMORE

The university said Crouse was an Army veteran and married father of five who joined the campus police force about six months after the 2007 massacre. He previously worked at a jail and for a sheriff's department.

Shortly after, police found in a parking lot a man with a gunshot wound and a gun nearby.

"The second victim is observed on the officer's in-car video camera system with a weapon at the time of the initial encounter with the officer," state police Major Rick Jenkins said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MATT GENTRY/THE ROANOKE TIMES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A police officer secures the scene where a gunman killed a police officer after a traffic stop Thursday, on the campus of Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Va.

Shafia says he was a loving, lenient father

A man accused of killing his three daughters over family honour portrayed himself Thursday as a loving, benevolent and lenient father, even though his children were cruel to him.

The picture Mohammad Shafia painted of himself as he took the stand at his murder trial was in stark contrast to evidence the jury has heard from Crown witnesses over the past six weeks. Court has heard that his children were afraid of him, begging authorities to remove them from the home, and that he cursed them as treacherous on wiretaps secretly recorded after their deaths.

What Shafia meant, when he was recorded on the wiretaps saying that even if the girls came back to life 100 times he would "do the same again," is that he would continue to give them good advice, he told court.

Shafia and his wife, Tooba Yahya, 41, and their son Hamed, 20, have each pleaded not guilty to four counts of first-degree murder.

They're accused of killing Zainab, 19, Sahar, 17 and Geeti Shafia, 13, and Rona Amir Mohammad, 52, Shafia's first wife in a polygamous marriage. The four bodies were found June 30, 2009, inside a car submerged in a canal in Kingston, Ont.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LARS HAGBERG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Mohammad Shafia, left, is escorted from the holding cell at the Frontenac county courthouse in Kingston, Ont., on Thursday.

Devil talk

- Shafia also tried to explain what he meant when he said on the wiretaps, "May the devil (defecate) on their graves."
- "To me it means that the devil would go out and check with them in graves," Shafia said. "If they have done a good thing it would be good, if they did bad it would be up to God what to do."

Huge methylamine haul in Mexico

Mexican authorities say they have seized 205 metric tons of a chemical used in synthetic drugs in a Pacific coast port.

Mexico's Navy says that the methylamine was found over several days in the port of Lazaro Cardenas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jurors tweet, sleep while in court

The Arkansas Supreme Court has tossed out a death-row inmate's murder conviction because one juror slept and another tweeted.

The court on Thursday voided Erickson Dimas-Martinez's 2010 murder conviction. His attorneys appealed his conviction because a juror tweeted during the trial. The justices sent the case back to a lower court for a new trial. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texting by drivers up 50% in U.S.

New U.S. federal safety data shows texting while driving increased 50 per cent last year, despite a rush by states to ban the practice. The share of drivers speaking in headsets also increased, although hand-held cellphone use remained flat.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hunted saves hunters' lives

Married couple shoots and skins moose calf after getting lost on a hunting trip Use hide as a blanket

Steve and Sheila Joyce of Steady Brook, N.L., were hunting Tuesday afternoon when they wounded a moose calf and then became disoriented while tracking it through the woods between Corner Brook and Bonne Bay.

As dusk fell and the temperature dropped to a few degrees above freezing, they realized they were hopelessly lost.

That's when they suddenly came upon the wounded calf and killed it, a recovering Sheila Joyce said Thursday from their home. They used its skin to keep warm through the night.

Joyce, in her mid-40s, has hunted with her husband for the last several years.

They had followed a blood trail from where they had wounded the calf near their SUV.

Their food and water was in the vehicle and her husband had set down their survival pack as they tracked the animal for what they thought would be a brief chase, she explained.

"We could see the Jeep from there — so we didn't think there was any possibility of getting lost when we went into those woods," said Joyce.

The couple's son, who searched through the night, alerted nearby hunters, who fired a shot into the air to find them.

The couple sent back an answering blast and was soon rescued.

They were briefly checked into a hospital and are now home.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HANDOUT/SHEILA JOYCE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Steve Joyce wears a moose hide as a life-saving blanket. Joyce and his wife, Sheila, spent a cold night lost in the woods of western Newfoundland during a hunting trip.

"We never would have made it through the night because we were both wet, shivery and cold."
SHEILA JOYCE

CHILD ABUSE

Scouts Canada apologizes

In a solemn six-minute video posted online Thursday, Scouts Canada offered a public apology to all former members who may have "suffered harm" at the hands of volunteer leaders in the past and announced a third-party review of its records relating to abuse.

"Our sincere efforts to prevent such crimes have not always succeeded. We are sorry for that," chief commissioner Steve Kent said in the YouTube video. "We are saddened at any resulting harm. Our most profound sympathies extend to all victims and to their families."

Kent's words came weeks after a report on CBC's Fifth Estate alleged Scouts Canada maintained a list of suspected pedophiles and did not share it with authorities.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Apology rings hollow

Japan's apology to Canadian veterans who suffered brutal treatment in prisoner of war camps during the Second World War is too late to be of significant meaning, veterans said Thursday. During the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Hong Kong, Japan's parliamentary vice-minister for foreign affairs apologized for the mistreatment of survivors who spent years toiling in labour camps.

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Europe's banks face higher target

EU leaders are forcing banks to raise €115 billion to restore confidence and restart normal lending

European banks have to raise about €115 billion to meet a new standard meant to inoculate the lenders against market turmoil, including bad government debt, a regulator said Thursday.

That's about €8 billion more than what the European Banking Authority previously estimated, and bank stocks around the continent plummeted as rumours of the figure circulated during late trading Thursday.

European banks have billions of euros of risky government bonds on their books, and, as the continent's crisis has deepened, investors have become increasingly concerned the lenders won't be able to weather all of the expected losses on those loans. That, in turn, has made banks wary of lending to one another — since they worry that one of their numbers could go under at any moment. When banks stop lending to one another and businesses, the entire economy seizes up.

The increase is largely due to a new calculation of the value of the bonds the banks hold: The previous estimate looked at the bonds' June value, while the new one takes into account the prices from the end of September. The value of many loans plummeted during the summer.

The money needs to be raised in order for banks to reach a nine per cent core Tier 1 capital ratio by the end of June — a measure of how much good capital a bank holds compared with its risky investments. The old requirement was just 5 per cent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Target by country

Germany was hit the hardest. Its banks were asked to raise €13.1 billion — a dramatic increase from the previous €5.1 billion.

- **Greece is still in lead at** €30 billion, Spain follows with €26.2 billion, and Italy needs to hit a €15.4 billion target.
- **France's banks fared well** with a target of €7.3 billion, down from €8.8 billion.

▶ An opposition supporter is grabbed by a Congolese riot police officer outside Opposition Leader Etienne Tshisekedi's headquarters in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, yesterday.

JEROME DELAY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Violence brewing in Congo

After days of tension, anxiety remained high that Congo would descend into violence, with supporters of opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi vowing to take to the streets if President Joseph Kabila is declared the winner.

Outside the headquarters of Tshisekedi's party, police fired tear gas and live rounds to push back the agitated crowd earlier in the day, witnesses said.

Victory seemed certain for the incumbent based on partial returns. Those results, representing 90 per cent of the vote cast, gave Kabila a more than 14-point lead over Tshisekedi, who had 34 per cent.

Kabila's supporters were already holding a victory celebration before the election commission had named the winner. Instead of issuing results as promised Thursday, the country's election commission chief announced another one-day postponement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FINDING

Predators scare animals to death: Study

The fear of predators takes as heavy a toll on prey animals as does actually being eaten, says a study published Thursday.

In a finding that could affect wildlife management from wolves and elk to domestic cats and songbirds, a pair of Canadian researchers have concluded that the stress of living where they could be devoured at any time could be the biggest single limiting factor on populations of animals that are regularly hunted.

"Humans don't know the meaning of the word fear — not compared to the bird at that backyard feeder or a bunny in the forest," said Michael Clinchy, co-author of the paper. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quebec to impose tougher animal cruelty laws

The Quebec government is sharpening the teeth of its laws against animal cruelty.

Tougher fines that could go as high as $75,000 in serious cases are included in amendments to animal protection legislation tabled on Tuesday.

The bill aims to crack down on puppy mills, giving the government the power to close a kennel if it finds animals are being abused. THE CANADIAN PRESS

World's oldest dog dies

YOMIURI SHIMBUN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Yumiko Shinohara holds Pusuke last December.

Pusuke passed away at the age of 26, or about 125 in human years

A dog believed to be the world's oldest living dog has died in Japan at the age of 26 years and eight months.

Owner Yumiko Shinohara told reporters at her home in Sakura, a city outside Tokyo, that Pusuke, a fluffy tan Shiba mix, died Monday after suddenly falling ill and refusing to eat.

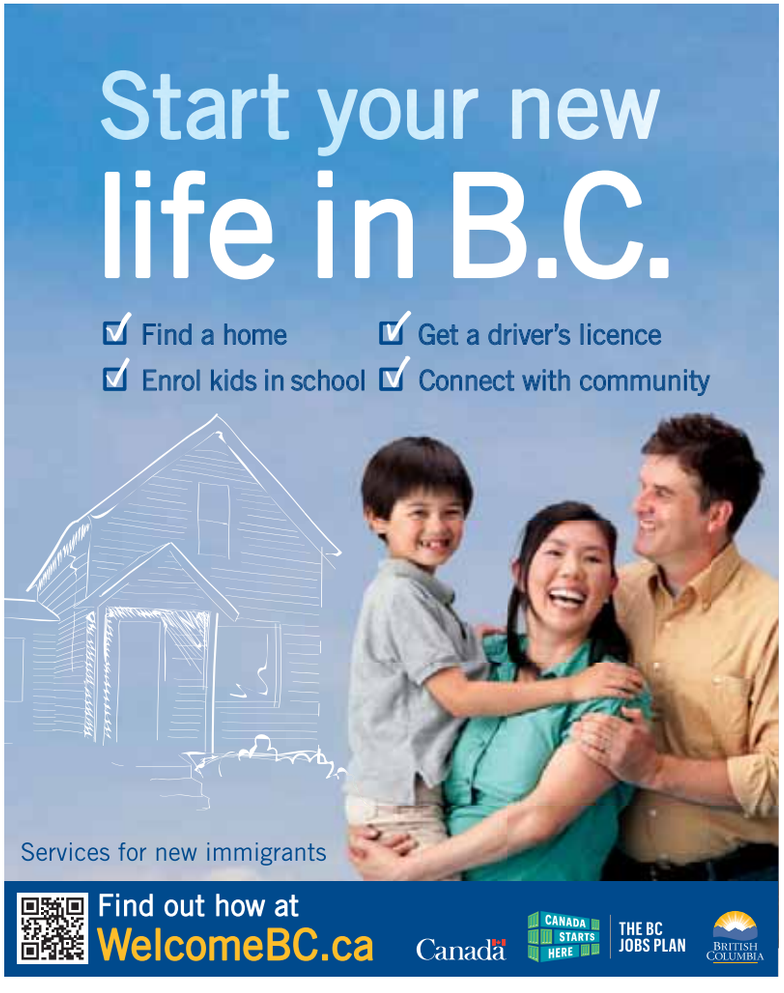
Shinohara told TV network FNN that she "would just like to thank him for staying alive so long." The report said Pusuke's lifespan would have been the equivalent of about 125 years for a human.

According to Guinness World Records, the dog was born April 1, 1985.

Pusuke was recognized as the world's oldest living dog last December. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For the record

- **The Guinness World** Record for canine longevity belongs to an Australian cattle dog by the name of Bluey, owned by Les and Esma Hall from Victoria, Australia.
- **Bluey was obtained as a** puppy in 1910 and worked herding cattle and sheep for almost three decades before he passed away at the age of 29 years and five months, say Guinness officials.
- **He was put to sleep on** Nov. 14, 1939.



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▶ Green Lantern, starring Ryan Reynolds, was recently released on UltraViolet.

New movie platform getting poor reviews

- Users says Warner's UltraViolet doesn't deliver
- Confused consumers complain on Twitter

Warner Bros. is learning a hard lesson about launching an ill-conceived product in the age of social media.

When the studio introduced its first movies on the new "UltraViolet" format in October, consumers were led to believe they could buy a DVD or Blu-ray, register their ownership of the movie on the UltraViolet website and then receive— at no extra cost — a digital version that could play on their computer, tablet or mobile phone.

The studio's aim was to encourage people to purchase movies rather than rent them or subscribe to a streaming service. But UltraViolet didn't work as advertised.

Some users were confused because the process required them to register on the UltraViolet website as well as on another website called Flixster, a movie site owned by Warner Bros. Users had to install special software before they could view movies on their computers. To make matters worse, it didn't work as advertised for owners of Apple's iPhones and iPads.

Within days, befuddled consumers took to Twitter and the Internet to complain. Jarren Wood, an art student from Atlanta, tweeted that he felt "conned" and called UltraViolet "a horrible hoax." Blogger Bryan Darrow tweeted, "Flixster sucks. I want my digital copy."

Among thousands of posts about UltraViolet on social-media sites in the weeks following the Oct. 11 launch, only three per cent of comments were positive, according to Fizziology, a company that tracks buzz related to Hollywood movie releases. Some 17 per cent were negative and the rest were neutral. That's on par with the worst product receptions the firm has ever seen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Lawyer, justices square off over niqab

Lawmakers hoping to chart a course for future trials with outcome in case involving alleged rape victim

The lawyer for a woman who wants to wear a niqab while facing her accused rapists fielded pointed questions Thursday from justices of the Supreme Court of Canada. The nature of the questions suggested several high court judges believe wearing the niqab during a trial may compromise the right to a fair trial.

Judges, lawyers and juries have long used changes in facial expressions to gauge a witness's credibility while testifying. A niqab covers the entire face, leaving only the eyes visible, making it difficult for lawyers and juries to read any nuances or changes in expression.

An Ontario woman identified only as N.S. says her Muslim faith dictates that she wear her niqab in public, including during the trial of two men who allegedly sexually assaulted her.

David Butt, the lawyer for N.S., told the justices that denying his client's right to wear a niqab would amount to imposing a special religious penalty on Muslims. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Pilot. History

▶ On the left, Mary Helen Foster is seen on a plane during her time in the Women Air Force Service Pilots program during the Second World War. On the right, Foster, 90, poses near her home in The Woodlands, Texas, on Dec. 1.

LEFT: THE COURIER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; RIGHT: ERIC S. SWIST/THE COURIER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flight of the fearless females

Mary Helen Foster was one of more than 1,700 women chosen for the groundbreaking Women Air Force Service Pilots program during the Second World War. The program allowed women to test aircraft undergoing maintenance and train pilots to allow men to fly in combat.

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Lifting the fog on smog

Beijing residents record pollution levels and share information online

Armed with a device that looks like an old transistor radio, some Beijing residents are recording pollution levels and posting them online. It's an act that borders on subversion.

The government keeps secret all data on the fine particles that shroud China's capital in a health-threatening smog most days. But as they grow more prosperous, Chinese are demanding the right to know what the government does not tell them: just how polluted their city is.

"If people know what their air is like, they are more likely to take action," said Wang Qiuxia, a researcher at local environment group Green Beagle, who shows interested residents how to test pollution on a locally made monitoring machine.

ANDY WONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ In this photo taken on Dec. 3, 2011, Tan Liang, a volunteer for Green Beagle, a local environmental group, takes readings on a PM2.5 detector near a garbage-burning facility in Beijing, China.

Beijing is frequently cloaked in yellow haze. Buildings a couple of blocks away are barely visible. Still, Beijing's official air quality index records the pollution as "light" — a reading at odds with what many people experience.

A reason for the discrepancy is that the official index does not include the fine particles Wang's group is tracking, PM2.5. Sometimes seen as soot or smoke, PM2.5 is tiny particulate matter – less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter or approximately 1/30th the average width of a human hair – that can result from the burning of fuels in vehicles, power plants and agriculture.

Government agencies did not comment for this report. Experts say the government measures are reducing pollution.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection has announced plans to factor PM2.5 into new air quality standards, beyond the coarser PM10 already measured, but not until 2016. One environmental official was quoted by state media as saying conditions were "not ripe" for the tougher standard, as many places would fail.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Halifax. Storm

▶ Clean-up crews remove a fallen tree from Russell Street in Halifax following high winds on Thursday.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Coastal climate knocks out power

More than 14,000 Nova Scotian households were without power due to what Environment Canada called a "weather bomb" in Atlantic Canada.

Don't-do list

- **One card reads:** "Dear fellow transit user, just a friendly reminder that you probably shouldn't ... play loud music, eat smelly food, over-perfume, hog seats/poles, barge/hold doors, preach, trim your nails, floss your teeth, leave your litter ... on the TTC."

Mind your manners

A Toronto man is doing his part to try to make Canada's most populous city a little more polite.

Christopher Rouleau — a graphic designer by trade — has designed colourful cards that can be downloaded, printed and handed out as needed.

The cards have boxes that can be ticked off to remind people of the proper etiquette for cellphones among many other things. He has launched the Toronto Etiquette Project to get people thinking about respect and courtesy in a fun way. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Richmond: December 10th
5:30 - 7:00pm

Gilmore Park United Church
8060 No. 1 Road (at Blundell)
Enjoy homemade soup and then write a letter. We invite people from other churches and the community at large to join us.

No link between abortion, anxiety

Study finds unwanted pregnancies, not abortion, trigger mental-health issues in women

Abortion does not increase a woman's chance of developing mental-health problems, according to the largest study ever to investigate the issue.

Among women with unwanted pregnancies, those who had abortions were no more likely to suffer from problems including anxiety or depression than women who gave birth, the research review by the U.K.'s National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health found.

The research shows that abortion does not cause mental-health problems, but raises a warning that officials must address the problem of unwanted pregnancy, said Dr. Tim Kendall, the centre's director.

The study is likely to be met by skepticism by those who that terminating a pregnancy can trigger depression or other mental illnesses. Kendall said mental health problems seemed to be linked specifically to unwanted pregnancies rather than abortion.

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Ad. Backtrack

▶ This undated image shows a Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board ad meant to warn young adults about the connection between heavy drinking and rape.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Liquor board pulls rape ad

A spokeswoman for the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board says the ad was pulled Wednesday after complaints that it blamed women for being victims.

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Clinton instigated protests: Putin

Says U.S. spending hundreds of millions to influence Russian politics • Clinton stands by criticism of election

DMITRY LOVETSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ People pose with a protester wearing a mock mask depicting Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin during a rally in Thursday in downtown St. Petersburg, Russia.

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, facing the possibility of nationwide protests against his rule, on Thursday accused U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton of instigating demonstrators in the wake of the disputed parliamentary election.

The comments came as opposition supporters largely stayed off the streets after three nights of sizeable protests. No protests were seen in Moscow and only a small one where 10 people were arrested was reported in St. Petersburg.

But the wave of discontent — which has already undercut Putin's public persona of being both strong and beloved — may be far from cresting. More than 30,000 people have promised on a Facebook page to attend a Saturday protest in Moscow and similar rallies have been called for in more than 70 other cities.

Putin, in televised remarks, accused the U.S. of encouraging and funding the Russians protesting the alleged election fraud in Sunday's elections. By recently describing Russia's election as rigged, Clinton "gave a signal" to his opponents, said Putin, who also warned of a wider Russian crackdown on dissent.

"They heard this signal and with the support of the U.S. State Department began their active work," Putin said.

Putin's tough words show the deep cracks in U.S.-Russian ties despite President Barack Obama's efforts to "reset" relations with the Kremlin. Ahead of the election, President Dmitry Medvedev threatened to deploy missiles to target the U.S. missile shield in Europe if Washington failed to assuage Moscow's concerns.

Clinton has repeatedly criticized Sunday's parliamentary vote, saying "Russian voters deserve a full investigation of electoral fraud and manipulation."

Moscow has already put about 50,000 police and 2,000 paramilitary troops on the streets.

Putin warned that the government might take an even harder line against those who try to influence Russia's political process on behalf of a foreign government. "We are the largest nuclear power," Putin said. "And our partners have certain concerns and shake us so that we don't forget who is the master of this planet, so that we remain obedient and feel that they have leverage to influence us within our own country."

Russia's Kremlin-controlled television networks have largely ignored the demonstrations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blame game

- Putin's attempt to rally support by blaming the United States for his troubles would find little support among ordinary Russians, said political analyst Dmitry Oreshkin.
- "Even in Soviet times, it did not work," Oreshkin said. "Now it won't work for sure."

Internet used to mobilize people

Aside from a mass protest near the Kremlin on Saturday called for by opposition groups to demand a vote recount, a map circulating on the Internet shows similar protests planned for Saturday in more than 75 cities around Russia, while a page on LiveJournal lists more planned protests in 15 countries around the world.

The use of the Internet to mobilize protesters in Russia is a new phenomenon.

Anton Nossik, a popular blogger and Internet expert, said it was not the Internet that energized the protesters but the brazen vote rigging that prompted many young Russians to express their discontent offline.

"They came out not because they read information (online) on where to show up for the first time, but because for the first time many people got the feeling that the time had come for that," Nossik said.

Sam Greene, director of the Center for the Study of New Media and Society in Moscow, said this week's protests in Moscow were a combination of online and offline social networks working together.

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OILSANDS DEVELOPMENT

Joslyn mine gets approval

The federal government has given the green light for the Joslyn oilsands mine project to go ahead, six years after Total E&P Canada first proposed it.

Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver said Thursday that construction can now begin on the mine near Fort McMurray, Alta., though there remains a two-week consultation period with local First Nations groups.

The prolonged review process for Joslyn shows the need for Canada to streamline its regulatory system, Oliver said in a statement.

Suncor Energy, Canada's largest energy company, picked up a minority interest in Joslyn late last year through a $1.75-billion deal with the French-owned E&P.

Environmental groups were quick to blast the approval, particularly since it comes during the United Nations climate-change conference in South Africa.

The oilsands have been criticized because of the greenhouse gases that are emitted when fossil fuels are burned.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

China court rejects Apple lawsuit

A court in southern China has rejected a claim by Apple Inc. that a Taiwanese-owned company has infringed its iPad trademark, a ruling that could threaten U.S. company's sales of its tablet computer in the country.

The court has ruled that the company, Shenzhen Proview Technology, is not bound by a 2009 agreement that its Taiwanese affiliate made with Apple to transfer the trademarks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Economy at risk from Euro crisis, BoC says

Potential for 'adverse shock' increased: Bank of Canada

Canadians need to start worrying about the worsening debt mess in Europe and its ability to hit hard in this country, the Bank of Canada warned Thursday in its semi-annual financial stability review.

"The (bank's) governing council judges that the risks to the stability of Canada's financial system are high and have increased markedly over the past six months," the central bank stated.

"Since June, the global retrenchment of risk associated with the European crisis has indeed resulted in a significant correction in the prices of equities and other risky assets, as well as a widening of credit spreads in Canada."

Frankly, the bank said, measures currently undertaken to bring the European debt crisis under control "have repeatedly fallen short of what is needed."

The bank made it clear that Canada's problems to date are of a factor lower than those faced by European nations and the United States. But the report warned that Canadian banks are not out of wreckage range should Europe's financial system crash.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Twitter rolls out tweaks

Twitter has redesigned its short messaging service to make it simpler, faster and more personal.

The redesign is supposed to make Twitter easier to navigate. It offers more accessible features that customize the experience for each user.

Twitter's tweaks debuted in a Thursday update to its software for smartphones and tablet computers. The new look will be gradually rolled out on its website over the next few weeks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

TSX	Dollar
- 196.93 (11,951.79)	- $1.19 (97.79¢ US)
Oil	**Natural gas**
- $2.15 US ($98.34 US)	$3.457 US (+ 3.6¢ US)
	Gold
	$1,713.40 US (- $31.40 US)

Yahoo wins $627M in scam case

Yahoo says it has won a $627-million court judgment in a scam that tried to dupe people into believing they had won prizes in a bogus lottery sponsored by the Internet company.

A New York federal court issued the default judgment on Monday. Collecting judgments in such cases is rare because online swindlers are often difficult to locate. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google. Groundbreaking

▶ Hong Kong government representatives and Google officials pose during the groundbreaking ceremony of Google's new data centre in Hong Kong on Thursday.

KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Engineering an Asian expansion

Google says it will spend $300 million on a new data centre in Hong Kong. The facility will be up and running by 2013, as the tech company beefs up infrastructure to keep pace with rapidly rising Internet use across Asia.

Coke moves secret formula to its museum

Coca-Cola has made its secret formula the centrepiece of a new exhibit at its corporate museum, ditching the confines of the bank vault where the list of ingredients had been stored since 1925. The world's largest beverage maker said Thursday a new vault containing the formula will be on display for visitors to its World of Coca-Cola museum in downtown Atlanta. However, the formula itself, which dates back to 1886, will remain hidden from view. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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TWEET CHILD O' MINE

THE METRO LIST

NEIL MORTON
METRO

1 Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra: Classical music went all hip when Tourism Calgary and CPO, as part of its vocal warmup to a new season, asked followers on Twitter to tweet their advice for staying toasty this winter. CPO assembled the best 20 tweets, set them to an offbeat compilation version of O Fortuna, and posted their performance, Singing Tweets, to YouTube. It is believed to be the first professional Twitter chorus ever created. A tweetorus.

2 Heroes exhibit: Inspired by his nephew, who overcame brain cancer, artist/gallery owner Mark Gleberzon has launched an exhibit, Heroes: Real, Fictional and Close to Home, which runs through Dec. 31 at his MJG gallery in Toronto. It features works by 16 artists who have interpreted the theme "heroes," from comic book superheroes to soldiers who have given their lives to cyclists as heroes juxtaposed against city traffic. Inspiring.

3 Canada's first Free Shipping Day: Mark next Monday, Dec. 12 on your calendar as that's the day Free Shipping Day comes to Canada. Taking a page from the popular U.S. Free Shipping Day, it allows you to snap up last-minute deals from online merchants (see freeshippingday.ca for participating merchants) and receive free shipping with delivery by Christmas Eve. Yes, sick days and surfing online should be way up come next Monday.

4 New Year's Eve movie: Garry Marshall's new romantic comedy New Year's Eve opens this Friday, about love and lust on New Year's in Time Square. It stars Sarah Jessica Parker, Hilary Swank, Jessica Biel, Ashton Kutcher, Zac Efron, Halle Berry, Robert De Niro and more. As Ellen said on her show this week, "Literally everyone in the world is in this movie." In other words, this New Year's Eve better not be a bust.

5 Own the Green Bay Packers: They're coming off a Super Bowl win last year, and are unbeaten this year. So now is a great time for the publicly owned Green Bay Packers to set up a site PackersOwner.com, that allows Cheeseheads to buy "common stocks" (they're $250 per share) in their storied franchise. You'll be sent a 12-inch-by-8-inch certificate so that "you will be able to display your ownership with pride," according to the site. Xmas gift. In.

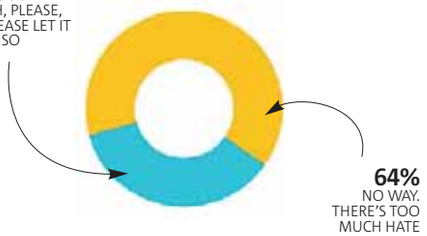
6 Top trending topics: What the Trend, Hootsuite's trend-spotting company, evaluated more than 200,000 Twitter hashtags to determine the top trending topics of 2011. The likes of Justin Bieber, Lady Gaga and Britney Spears are a few of the celebrities that made the Top 10. Thankfully, Kim Kardashian wasn't on this list. She should be on a Not Ever Trending Again list with Paris Hilton.

7 G N' R: With news that seminal rock band Guns N' Roses are among those being inducted into the Rock and Roll of Hall of Fame in 2012, comes new rumours of a possible reunion. I prefer to leave their Appetite For Destruction album in 1987 in high school, and not see a bloated Axl Rose ever take the stage again with Slash to perform Sweet Child O' Mine. Like rugger pants, some things really are better left in the past.

Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Do you think Slash and Axl will share the stage at the G N'R Hall of Fame induction?



Local tweets

@TEAM1040: Canucks start a five-game road trip in Montreal. Luongo starts, Andrew Alberts as a forward. 4:30 start on #TEAM1040. ow.ly/7Tc8t

@VanCanucks: Bill Sweatt makes his #NHL debut in #Montreal tonight. How's he feeling? bit.ly/vGY57b

@D_Booth7: Christmas music can put anyone in a good mood! #OHolyNight #WhatChildIsThis and of course #LastChristmas @taylorswift13

@Miss604: #Vancouver's Christmas tree lighting is tomorrow. Saw them setting up yesterday, the tree is huge! ow.ly/7T5Tx #Miss604Holidays

@derekonomy: Where in #vancouver do you suppose i donate a seemingly endless supply of coca cola and soda?

@F4SLeighRamsden: @D_Booth7 Get better David! You were really starting to play well. Best of luck for a speedy recovery! #Canucks

@Dave_Eby: Father of Alvin Wright writes an open letter to the new head of B.C.'s Independent Investigation Office: ow.ly/7Tt1k #RCMP #BCPoli

Daily Zoom

LONDON NEWS PICTURES/REX FEATURES

What's she staring at?

Fan of the bra goes a-bungee

LONDON. She got her eyes on the prize. This female bungee jumper and self-confessed lingerie fanatic took the plunge in front of a huge projection of model Adriana Cernanova at London's landmark Battersea power station on Wednesday. The jump was to launch the new Ultimate Plunge bra by Wonderbra. METRO WORLD NEWS

"I would have never done this for pure pleasure. I only did it because I won the competition!"
HEIDI SPEED, COMPETITION WINNER

'Bungee jump? That's a prize?!'

FEAR. Heidi, 29, mother of two, was one of three women who won an online competition to do the bungee jump. "I honestly didn't know what the prize was when I entered the competition," Heidi told Metro. "I was really nervous at the top, but a guy talked to me in a calm voice and told me it would be OK." METRO WORLD NEWS

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70-inch Sharp Aquos Quattron, $3,299, left, Samsung BD-D7000 3-D Blu-ray Player, $349, right, Apple TV, $119, bottom.

Channel your Holiday spirit

MIKE YAWNEY
FOR METRO

Going out to see a movie is always nice, but bringing that theatre experience home is something you can enjoy year-round. If you were really good this year, maybe Santa will spruce up that aging home theatre for you.

Here are our picks to help you bring the cinematic experience home for the holidays.

55-inch LG Cinema 3-D LED TV — $1,599

As the technology matures, the price of 3-D TVs continues to drop. You don't have to break the bank this holiday season in order to put a 3-D TV under the tree. LG sets itself apart from the rest by offering passive 3-D technology in its Cinema series televisions. The glasses are cheap, lightweight and much easier on the eyes than traditional 3-D glasses. The TV comes loaded with useful apps such as Netflix, so you will be guaranteed to have something to watch after you are done opening all the presents!

70-inch Sharp Aquos Quattron — $3,299

If you think bigger is better then look no further than the 70-inch Sharp Aquos Quattron. This LED TV is ideal for those who want a large picture but don't have the appropriate set-up for a projector. Sharp's Quattron technology adds a fourth (yellow) pixel into the mix for more vivid yellows and more vibrant blues. A matte screen also ensures glare from light sources is reduced. You can also purchase this television in an incredibly large 80-inch model.

24-inch PlayStation 3-D LED Display — $499

The first PlayStation branded monitor! This display will change the way you game. Say goodbye to split screen! SimulView technology filters out your opponent's screen so two players can play the same game at the same time yet only see their own full screen action. Cheating is now a thing of the past. This HD monitor comes with two pairs of 3-D glasses, HDMI cable and Motorstorm Apocalypse for the PS3.

Samsung BD-D7000 3-D Blu-ray Player — $349

A small but mighty Blu-ray player! In fact, it's not much larger than a Blu-ray disc! This player features 2D-to-3D Up Conversion, so even your old Blu-ray movies can be viewed in 3-D. Connect your device to your wireless network and open up even more features such as apps, wireless streaming or the playback of various types of video, music, and image files via the USB port. One of the nicest features has to be the Ultra-Fast Play, which brings you to the main screen of your movie in just three seconds from the time you insert the disc. Now that's fast!

Apple TV — $119

Stream your purchased iTunes content directly to your television. HD movies, TV shows and music can now all be enjoyed on the big screen. Have an iPad, iPod Touch or iPhone? You can wirelessly stream your content (standard definition and high definition) directly to your Apple TV through Apple's AirPlay technology. Of course, you can also use Apple TV to access Netflix, YouTube, Vimeo and live Major League Baseball games. The user interface is simple enough for anyone to navigate whether you are young or old.

LG Smart TV Upgrader — $99.99

Disappointed your older flat screen TV doesn't have all the bells and whistles of the newer models? LG's Smart TV Upgrader makes any TV a Smart TV. Web browsing, apps, and premium video-on-demand services can be added to your TV through a single HDMI port.

Sony Personal 3-D Viewer — $799

Imagine always having the perfect seat in the movie theatre! Now you can with your very own 3-D Viewer from Sony. Two 0.7-inch OLED screens sit in front of your eyes, but your brain tricks you into thinking you are staring at a 150-inch movie screen 12 feet away. The viewer offers full 5.1 surround sound.

55-inch LG Cinema 3-D LED TV, $1,599, far left, Sony Personal 3-D Viewer, $799, top left, 24-inch PlayStation 3-D LED Display, $499.

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Big Bang
for the cinephile

KEITH CARMAN
FOR METRO

Motion pictures: The gift that keeps on giving.

To a true Hollywood devotee, though, regular old DVDs rarely cut it. They are nowhere near comparable to the Mega-Platinum Everything-But-The-Kitchen-Sink box sets that seem to come out around the same time snow starts piling up at our doorsteps.

This year is no exception, of course, so with that, keep these bona fide flicks in mind when looking for something to turn your film freak starry-eyed this holiday season.

Current
Harry Potter: The Complete Eight-Film Collection
Warner

A full decade and eight feature films into this legacy, few need introduction to the bespectacled wizard and his spellbinding saga. However, even with latest series-capper Deathly Hallows only coming out recently, Warner announces that as of Dec. 29, all Harry Potter films will disappear from store shelves. While you have presumably been building your collection since 2001 debut The Philosopher's Stone, grab The Complete Eight-Film Collection fast, before even magic can't bring it back.

Classic
Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory 40th Anniversary Ultimate Collector's Edition
Warner

With a title that long, it has to be great. Yes, we are all familiar with the inimitable Roald Dahl tale as performed by Gene Wilder, yet when packed with multiple extras in a double-wide numbered gift set, who can resist? We will all feel like Veruca Salt pining for the hours of extras, including a fresh director interview, Dahl featurette, 144-page production book reprint and — most importantly — a retro Wonka Bar-shaped tin box with scented pencils and eraser.

Cartoon
Mr. Magoo — The Television Collection 1960-1977
Shout! Factory

Whether fondly reminiscing or introducing a new generation to this goofy glasses-needing cornball, Mr. Magoo is a wealth of innocent animated fun. Gathering all three series together for this 11-disc box set, The Television Collection is a true opus of fun, boasting 30-plus hours of sticky situations.

Television
The Big Bang Theory, Seasons One To Four
Warner

Catching on faster than a malicious meme, this sitcom has turned two unlikely nerds into modern day heroes ... when we can understand their intellectual jargon. This mega-box set is fleshed out with actor-on-actor interviews, a focus on song creators The Barenaked Ladies and a gag reel, creating 48-plus hours of Einstein-worthy hilarity.

Horror
Friday The 13th: The Ultimate Collection
Paramount

No, it's not exactly in keeping with the holiday spirit, but even horror hounds deserve something this season. Heeding the call, The Ultimate Collection delivers with splatter film star Jason Voorhees and all 10 of his Friday The 13th flicks served up in a gruesome package. Bolstered by expanded editions, a book and a life-sized replica of the slasher's trademark hockey mask, this collection is as cool as it is creepy.

Cha-Ching.

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Throwing a perfect holiday party

Celebrate the season with a glittering open house for family and friends that's also easy on the hostess

YLVA VAN BUUREN
FOR METRO

The holidays are a wonderful time to hold a party for family and friends.

An open house lets your guests double-book if they have to during this busy time of year, says Robyn Green, Kai Event Management, Vancouver.

And an open house is also easier for the hostess ... you can prepare many foods and nibbles ahead, space out serving them, and wander about and visit with guests.

Planning is the most important part, says Greta Podleski, co-author of The Looneyspoons Collection and other cookbooks.

FOOD

Stick to hot and cold appetizers and a couple of desserts. "Three hot appetizers, three cold appetizers and two desserts/sweets should be plenty of variety," says Podleski. "Make some, buy some" is a good strategy — "but always present premade, store-bought food in pretty bowls or on decorative plates." For the day of, write out a prep schedule.

BAR

Keep it simple ... beer, wine and a couple non-alcoholic beverage choices.

DECOR

A metallic (silver or gold) colour theme will help make your event glitter.

Use silver or gold runners and napkins on your buffet table. Clear glass containers filled with sparkly ornaments look pretty and festive. Fill a large, shallow silver bowl with pomegranates and tuck evergreen sprigs or holly berries between the fruit.

GIFTS

Ask guests to help you fill stockings for the homeless by bringing gifts such as wool mittens or socks and food items.

THE PODLESKIS' NEW COOKBOOK, THE LOONEYSPOONS COLLECTION, IS AVAILABLE AT INDIGO.CA.

Mixed-Up Meatballs

Appetizer-size turkey meatballs with cranberry-orange barbecue sauce.

CONTRIBUTED

Ingredients:

Meatballs

- 1½ lbs (680 g) ground turkey or chicken
- ½ cup unseasoned dry bread crumbs
- ⅓ cup finely minced or grated onions
- ¼ cup minced fresh parsley
- 1 egg
- ½ tsp each garlic powder and dried marjoram
- ¼ tsp each salt and freshly ground black pepper

Sauce

- 1 can (19 oz/540 mL) jellied cranberry sauce
- ¼ cup hickory or chipotle barbecue sauce (smoky)
- 2 tbsp freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 tsp reduced-sodium soy sauce
- 1 tsp grated orange zest

Preparation:

1 In a large bowl, mix together ground turkey, bread crumbs, onions, parsley, egg, garlic powder, marjoram, salt and pepper (using your hands works best). Form mixture into bite-sized meatballs, about 1 to 1½ inches in diameter. You should end up with about 45 meatballs.

2 Place meatballs on a baking sheet that has been lightly coated with cooking spray. Bake at 400 F for 12 to 15 minutes or until cooked through. Stir meatballs once, halfway through cooking time, to brown sides. Remove from oven and transfer to a large pot.

3 In a small saucepan, combine cranberry sauce, barbecue sauce, lemon juice, soy sauce and orange zest. Cook over medium heat until cranberry sauce is melted and mixture is bubbly, about 5 minutes. Pour sauce over meatballs and stir gently until all meatballs are coated with sauce. Cover and simmer over low heat for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve hot. Makes 45 meatballs

Merry Cherry Cheesecake

CONTRIBUTED

Ingredients:

- 1½ cups graham crumbs
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- 3 tbsp butter, melted
- ¼ cup freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 pkg (¼ oz/7 g) unflavoured gelatine
- 2 pkgs (8 oz/250 g each) light cream cheese
- 2 cups light (5%) sour cream
- 1 can (10 oz/300 mL) low-fat sweetened condensed milk (such as Eagle Brand)
- Grated zest of one lemon
- 2 cans (19 oz/540 mL each) reduced-sugar cherry pie filling

Preparation:

1 To make crust, combine graham crumbs and cinnamon in a medium bowl. Add melted butter and stir using a fork until crumbs are moistened. Spray a 9 x 13-inch baking dish with cooking spray. Press crumb mixture firmly and evenly over bottom of dish. Refrigerate while you prepare the filling.

2 Measure lemon juice in measure cup. Sprinkle gelatine over lemon juice and let stand for one minute. Add ¼ cup boiling water. Mix well, until gelatine is dissolved. Set aside.

3 To make filling, beat together cream cheese and lemon juice mixture on high speed of electric mixer until smooth. Add sour cream, sweetened condensed milk and lemon zest. Beat again until well blended. Pour filling over prepared crust and spread to edges of pan. Cover and refrigerate for at least 3 hours until set. Spread cherry pie filling over cream cheese mixture. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve. Makes 18 cheesecake squares

RECIPE TIPS: Take the cream cheese out of the fridge about 30 minutes before you make the cake. It's easier to beat cream cheese if it isn't cold. Don't omit the lemon juice from this recipe — it, along with the gelatine, helps the filling set. Don't forget to grate the zest from the lemon before cutting it in half to squeeze out the juice.

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CONTRIBUTED

Born to be Wild Mushroom Pizza

Herbed wild mushroom appetizer pizza with hummus.

Preparation:

1 Preheat oven to 425 F. Drain tomatoes in a sieve, pressing down on them to remove as much liquid as possible. Set aside. They won't look pretty at this point, but that's OK.

2 Heat olive oil in a large, non-stick skillet over medium heat. Add onions and garlic. Cook and stir until onions have softened, 3 to 4 minutes. Add mushrooms and cook until mushrooms are tender, about 5 more minutes. Stir in thyme, rosemary, salt and pepper. Cook 1 more minute. Remove from heat.

3 To assemble pizza, spread hummus over pizza crust, leaving a ½-inch border. Top hummus with drained tomatoes. Sprinkle Parmesan cheese over tomatoes. Spread mushroom mixture evenly over top, followed by mozzarella.

4 Place pizza directly on middle oven rack and bake for about 10 minutes, until cheese is completely melted and edges are lightly browned. Remove from oven to cutting board and let cool 1 minute before slicing. Slice into 12 thin wedges and serve immediately. Makes 1 pizza, 12 slices.

Ingredients:

- 1 can (19 oz/540 mL) diced tomatoes with Italian herbs
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1 cup thinly sliced red onions
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 4 cups sliced wild mixed mushrooms (such as cremini, shiitake and portobello)
- 2 tsp each minced fresh thyme and fresh rosemary, or ½ tsp each dried
- Pinch of salt and pepper
- ¾ cup hummus
- 1 12-inch, prebaked, whole-grain, thin-crust pizza shell
- ¼ cup grated Parmesan, Romano or Asiago cheese
- ¾ cup packed shredded light mozzarella or provolone cheese (3 oz/85 g)

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THE SMARTPHONE MARKET

ANDROIDS ARE TAKING OVER THE WORLD

There's a lot of talk that Google's innovative mobile platform Android is becoming the number one smartphone platform in the world. And for good reason.

Earlier this year, Google announced that 400,000 new Android devices are being activated every day. That adds up to about 200 million Android devices in use around the world today!

In Canada, comScore, a measurement firm, also recently reported that Android doubled its share of the smartphone market between June to September. And, research company Gartner Inc. says Android represents 52.5 per cent of the worldwide smartphone market.

So what makes Android so successful?

First, the operating system is not tied to a specific manufacturer, so there's a wide selection of devices for consumers to choose from. Mobilicity, for example, carries Android smartphones made by HTC, Nokia and Samsung.

There are also a wide range of price points, from super affordable smartphones, such as the ***Samsung Galaxy Mini ($169.99 at Mobilicity)***, to more premium-priced phones like the ***Samsung Nexus S ($349.99 at Mobilicity)*** and ***HTC Amaze 4G ($549.99 at Mobilicity).***

Here's what else makes Android's appeal so wide-reaching:

KEYBOARDS

Choose from both touchscreen and touch/QWERTY models. Some Android smartphones even come with handy keypad apps, like Quicktype by Swype, which comes pre-installed on the Samsung Galaxy Mini. It lets you quickly "swipe" from letter to letter to form a word rather than having to tap on each touchscreen key — making sending texts and emails a breeze.

CUSTOMIZATION TOOLS

Android makes it easy to set up the device to your liking. The intuitive TouchWiz on the Samsung Galaxy Mini, for example, lets you customize your home screen with widgets.

GOOGLE SERVICES

Android smartphones have smooth and easy compatibility with all Google services, including the free Google Navigation with turn-by-turn instructions, YouTube, Google Search and many others. With Mobilicity's unlimited data, you can access these features as often as you need to.

APPS GALORE

There's a never-ending supply of apps — 320,000 free and paid apps at the Android Market; or you can download apps from other sources to customize your Android the way you want it!

VOICE ACTIVATION

The free Voice Search app lets you search your phone, the web and nearby locations, by speaking into the device instead of typing. For example, you can tell your Samsung Nexus S smartphone what to send by text message — and it will. Now that's smart.

MEDIA

Android makes it easy to load and play music and movies, with support for most common video file formats. Cameras range from the 5-Megapixel camera with autofocus and LED flash on the Samsung Nexus S to the 8-Megapixel HD camera and bonus 2-Megapixel front-facing camera on the HTC Amaze.

FOUR TO EXPLORE

Samsung Galaxy Mini is a great quality Android at an affordable price. Its 3.14-inch Touch Screen with Touchwiz technology makes the interface highly responsive to touch. The 600 MHz processor supports Flash video.
At Mobilicity, $169.99

"After 24 hours, I love the HTC Panache," states a customer review on howardforums.com. "It's a well-built machine. If you need a phone that has an excellent screen, and is fast, check out the Panache." The powerful Panache offers the best of style, function and innovation. It has interactive camera effects, a built-in flashlight (via the LED camera flash) and it can turn into a portable Wi-Fi hotspot.
At Mobilicity, $299.99 (reduced from $499)

Samsung Nexus S made techradar.com's 10 Best Android List — and no wonder. The first Android Gingerbread 2.3 phone features a 1 GHz processor, 16GB of internal memory and a 4-inch curved glass multi-touch display.
At Mobilicity, $349.99 (reduced from $499)

HTC Amaze 4G — just released — rings in the holidays with a large, 4.3-inch vibrant LCD touch screen, two cameras and 1.5 GHz dual core processor for fast web browsing, downloading and true HD video viewing.
At Mobilicity, $549.99 regular price.

BEST OF THE BEST ANDROID APPS

Enjoy using a vast number of apps on your smartphone without worrying about paying more than the price of your plan – with Mobilicity, it's all included. Download any of these apps anytime with Mobilicity's unlimited data access. And, for a limited time, get 50 per cent off data add-ons.

APP CONTEST ON FACEBOOK

Submit your favourite app for a chance to win a Mobilicity Swag Bag!

All you have to do is "Like" the Mobilicity Facebook page. Then, submit your favourite app and tell us why you love it.

FILL 'ER UP

GasBuddy helps you save money when you need gas. The app finds the gas station nearest you and shows gas prices in real time. Become a ***GasBuddy*** "price tipster" and you can earn points towards price giveaways. ***Free***

RESTAURANT HUNT

Not sure where to eat tonight? ***Urbanspoon*** can help and make it fun too. The app is like a slot machine — shake your phone and the wheels spin until they land on a nearby restaurant. Keep shaking until you find one you want to try. Or, you can filter choices by neighbourhood, cuisine, or price. ***Urbanspoon*** also provides ratings and reviews. ***Free***

PORTABLE SCANNER

Turn your mobile phone into a portable scanning device with the ***CamScanner*** app. All you have to do is take a picture of a document, receipt, note or picture with your phone and create a pdf. It's a great way to upload and manage documents. ***$4.99***

FUN WITH PHOTOS

PhotoFunia is an online photo editing tool that's great fun. Upload any photo and the app adds photo effects — for a funny photo montage. Want to see what you'd look like as Santa? A Skateboarder? A Zombie? Check it out. More than 200 scenes and effects for hours of fun! ***Free***

YOUR MONEY

Mint puts all your finance information into one convenient place and helps you manage your money and budget. Check your accounts while you're on the bus. Track budgets and edit info while you're eating lunch. ***Mint*** makes it easy. ***Free***

DON'T FORGET – EVER

Evernote is an easy way to help you remember all your ideas, experiences and inspiring thoughts as they happen — and then easily search and find them later. And, all your notes, web clips and files are made available on every device you use. You can even share with social media — for example, post a note onto Facebook to share with friends. ***Free***

MY KINDA PHONE

Personalize your Android phone with ***Zedge*** visuals and sounds. ***Zedge*** features a huge selection of free wallpaper, ringtones and notification sounds. Join the 90 million users who use Zedge to make their phones truly unique. ***Free***

FUN WITH PHOTOS

PhotoFunia is an online photo editing tool that's great fun. Upload any photo and the app adds photo effects — for a funny photo montage. Want to see what you'd look like as Santa? A Skateboarder? A Zombie? Check it out. More than 200 scenes and effects for hours of fun! ***Free***

YELP

Yelp is a fun way to find and talk about great (and not so great) local businesses like restaurants, bars and shops; also spas, live shows and galleries. The whole idea is to preview places you're considering and see what other people think of them before you go to potentially save you time and money on a place that might not be up to par. ***Free***

KEEP IN TOUCH

Stay connected with ***PingChat!*** This app lets you send unlimited texts, photos, videos and voice notes instantly. Receive messages instantly too with push notifications and see message receipts. Plus, share your social profile with confirmed contacts! ***PingChat*** also allows for group chats with multiple friends. ***Free***

WHY ANDROID?

If you're thinking about getting a new smartphone and having a hard time choosing which platform to go with, here are some things to consider:

LOTS OF CHOICE **Android phones are made by different manufacturers, which means there's a wider range of devices available than with other platforms.**

FITS ANY BUDGET **Android devices start at an affordable no-contract price of $169.99 at Mobilicity.**

LARGER SCREENS **Screens on Android smartphones are not limited to the 3.5 inch size found on some platforms — in fact, Android displays range up to 4.5 inches in size.**

DOUBLE THE MEMORY **Androids don't just have internal memory; there are options for external memory, too.**

NOTIFICATION **Android phones have a convenient notifications bar, not multiple pop-up notifications.**

FLASH! **Android smartphones support Adobe Flash — which makes for a better web experience!**

Don't be the talk of your office party

CHARLES THE BUTLER

ASKCHARLES THEBUTLER@METRONEWS.CA
FOR MORE, VISIT CHARLES MACPHERSON.COM

Oh, yes, the annual office holiday party! This can either be a disaster waiting to happen or an opportunity for business success.

First and foremost, despite the name, a holiday party is still a business function and getting drunk, acting silly or any other non-professional behaviour is out. Remember, these are your working peers and bosses, and being known as the office clown from the annual holiday party is never a good thing, particularly at promotion time the following year!

So keep the number of alcoholic drinks under control. I like the rule of two alcoholic drinks at a cocktail party and three alcoholic drinks for a sit-down dinner. Try to pace these out by having a non-alcoholic drink between each alcoholic beverage.

STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

❄ **Getting drunk, acting silly or any other non-professional behaviour should be avoided at your office holiday party. Being known as the office clown is never a good thing, particularly at promotion time next year.**

Keep your conversation pleasant. You can talk about a large number of items and, in fact, the best lesson to learn if you are nervous about what to talk about is to read Metro from cover to cover the morning of your party. Why you ask?

Because this gives you a bunch of topics to talk about that are all current and relevant. What not to talk about always remains the same in a professional environment: Never talk about politics or religion.

Dress festively and appropriately for the function as per the invitation, but err on the conservative side rather than flashy.

It is important to make a point and mingle, greet and acknowledge all of the senior members of your company at the party.

A simple hello and how much you love working at the company or thank you for inviting me to such a wonderful office party will do, but don't forget to say hello, shake hands and smile.

Finally, last but never least, have a good time and enjoy yourself; this will be evident to everyone around you.

Be on your best behaviour

The social holiday party is generally such a pleasure compared to the office party, but yet there are some simple guidelines that are important to follow to help ensure you have a great time and still hold your head up proudly at your kid's next soccer game!

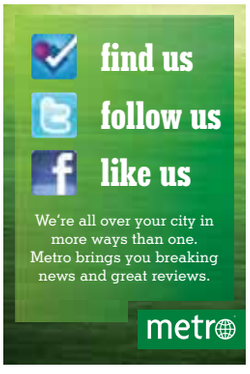
Like any party, RSVP as soon as you get the invitation and never arrive early — fashionably late (15 minutes) is a good thing.

If appropriate, bring something like a box of chocolates, homemade cookies, a bottle of wine, favourite book or present for Fido the dog, but never bring cut flowers, as this puts a burden on the hostess to have to arrange them at the last minute.

If you are going to drink, make arrangements ahead of time on how you are going to get home — taxi, transit, or a non-drinking friend.

Don't be the last guest to leave, and if you see your host is all by themselves without help, offer to do something in the kitchen or at the bar.

I love to be the barman if I don't know anyone at the party — this gives me something to do, and I get the opportunity to meet everyone. So after doing the bar for an hour or so, when I pass it along to someone else, I now know the crowd and can figure out who I might like to approach and talk with. ● CHARLES THE BUTLER



Scratch & Win

Might be the biggest little gift under the tree.

bclc

Know your limit, play within it. GameSense

19+

Bathing beauties

Foaming Bath, Cherry, 300 ml, $28, available at Fruits & Passion, fruits-passion.ca.

Lush Abombinaball Bath Bomb, $6.95, left, Lush Satsumo Santa Bath Bomb, $5.95, middle, and Lush The Melting Snowman Bath Melt, $5.95, available at Lush, lush.ca.

Crabtree & Evelyn Avocado & Olive Oil Milled Soap, $10, available at Crabtree & Evelyn, crabtree-evelyn.com.

Lush Candy Cane Soap, $6.95 for 100 g, available at Lush, lush.ca.

Baby Life Bling Floating Bath Ducks, $3.99 each, available at Shoppers Drug Mart, shoppersdrugmart.ca.

Cake Vanilla Snow Woman Glistening Body Mousse, $30, left, Cake Vanilla Snow Woman Glistening Body Wash, $30, available at Cake Beauty, cakebeauty.com.

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Tim Hortons Timbits Snowman Tree Ornament, $5.95, available at Tim Hortons, timhortons.com.

Christmas Ornament, $95, available at Swarovski, swarovski.com.

Bird Ornament, $5.50, available at Indigo, chapters.indigo.ca.

Owl Ornament, $7.50, available at Indigo, chapters.indigo.ca.

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Synopsis

It's Dec. 31 and we follow the stories of Robert De Niro as a terminally ill man; Halle Berry as his kindly nurse. Then there's odd couple Michelle Pfeiffer and Zac Efron, anxiety-ridden Hillary Swank, ex-lovers Katherine Heigl and Jon Bon Jovi and even Ryan Seacrest pops up playing — who else? — himself. Have we left anyone out? Probably. There are more stars here than in the heavens, but rest assured, by the end of the movie, stories have woven together and no hearts are broken.

Ratings:
Richard: ½
Mark: 🌐

HANDOUT

▶ Josh Duhamel gets a last-minute adjustment in the film New Year's Eve.

Dropping the ball?

Impressive collection of stars in New Year's Eve But film devoid of real emotion

Reel Guys
RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Richard: Mark, this mishmash of easy sentiment, romance, illness, musical numbers and product placement flip-flops from story to story so often, it's like a five-year-old grabbed the remote and is wildly channel surfing. It's not so much a movie as it is a cavalcade of familiar names in situations geared to make you understand why everybody hates Dec. 31. Am I being too cynical?

Mark Breslin: Oh, Richard, what's the matter with you? You mean you don't like shoddy writing, implausible plot lines, cameos masquerading as script development, and a general tone of emotional manipulation? The movie screams "BOGUS" from the opening "inspiring" shots of the Statue of Liberty to the hack credit roll outtakes.

You know what's odd? I kind of liked Valentine's Day, the earlier, funnier, more touching version of this Garry Marshall shmaltzfest. Here's a challenge: did you find anything to like?

RC: Well... let me see. I thought Zac Efron was passably charming and a couple of the outtakes at the end are funnier than anything contained in the actual movie. But there are Walmart commercials with more real emotion than director Gary Marshall manages to bring to this manipulative mess.

MB: And I didn't mind the scenes between Ashton Kutcher and Lea Michele. Trapped in an elevator, at least the movie slows down long enough for a few real moments to break through. And Larry Miller was funny as the tow truck operator.

But back to the travesties: Russell Peters hiding behind an accent he swore he'd never do; Michelle Pfeiffer's stupid bucket list; Robert DeNiro's bathetic hospital scenes; but the worst was Hilary Swank's "love" speech to the assembled Times Square multitude.

I've lived in New York, and believe me, the crowd wouldn't have applauded politely — they would have hurled obscenities at her. Which would have been a much better scene!

RC: It certainly is a New York-centric flick. Even NYC mayor Bloomberg gets into the action.

By the time he kicks off the New Year's Eve countdown with the words, "Let's drop the ball," its already abundantly clear that Garry Marshall already dropped the ball with this movie.

MB: Very funny, Richard!

I think a better version of the movie would have been scenes of Garry Marshall convincing all those Hollywood stars to work for a fraction of their rate card.

2 scene

Scene in brief

Emma Watson's advice to teenagers is: "feel comfortable in your own skin." The 21-year-old Harry Potter star, on her second visit to Hong Kong, told reporters Thursday: "Be true to who you are and do the best to feel comfortable in your own skin. You are all right exactly as you are."
METRO

Robocop actor Peter Weller joining sequel to hit Star Trek movie due out in 2013

Movie reviews

See it twice | See it now | Worth watching | Yawn | Don't bother

The Sitter

Genre: Comedy
Director: David Gordon Green
Stars: Jonah Hill, Sam Rockwell

In The Sitter, Jonah Hill plays a likeable, albeit contemptuous drop-out reluctantly babysitting three even more disdainful kids.

But when his hideous girlfriend lures him to score her cocaine, the night turns into a crass journey of misadventures.

Simply put, The Sitter plays solely as a vehicle for Hill to perform the chubby-guy-talking-trash shtick he's mastered since Superbad.

If that works for you, sit tight and enjoy him in his pejorative prime.

STEVE GOW

The Artist

Genre: Drama
Director: Michel Hazanavicius
Stars: Jean Dujardin, Berenice Bejo, John Goodman

Black and white; silent; set in silent-era Hollywood; and subtitled, The Artist may not scream mainstream must see, but it's one of the year's most gloriously memorable films. This French jewel is magical, pure and dreamy on the surface, blazing emotion and irrevocable change underneath. Dujardin is Valentin, the toast of Tinseltown, a matinée idol who charms the birds out of the fake trees that line Mulholland Drive. But he's about to lose it all if he can't make the cut to sound. The Artist feels like a fairy tale, something you're watching in a theatre and it is 1927.

ANNE BRODIE

Magic to Win

Genre: Fantasy
Director: Wilson Yip
Stars: Louis Koo, Bak-Ming Wong, Chun Wu

This teen-friendly mash up of genres from Hong Kong is part Harry Potter, part ghost story, and part girls' underdog volleyball team-that-could.

At the centre is errant elemental magic that creates chaos transferring from person to person, via cellphone, physical proximity and even bad weather.

A magician's attempts to hoard the magic to go back in time cause weird, wacky results. Plenty of eye candy, explosions, and balls of flying magic enliven an otherwise ho hum, confused outing.

ANNE BRODIE

The Eye of the Storm

Genre: Drama
Director: Fred Schepisi
Stars: Geoffrey Rush, Charlotte Rampling, Dustin Clare

There's a taste of King Lear in The Eye of the Storm. The similarities in the family dynamic are obvious; terminally ill socialite Elizabeth (Charlotte Rampling), lords over her cash-hungry kids, lecherous stage star Sir Basil (Geoffrey Rush) and down-on-her-luck princess Dorothy (Judy Davis). But beyond that, there is a theatricality to the movie that works well for the material.

Normally I would find the movie's monologues and posturing distracting, but it is a pleasure to watch Rush, Davis and Rampling clearly relishing the opportunity to immerse themselves in their roles.

RICHARD CROUSE

Shame

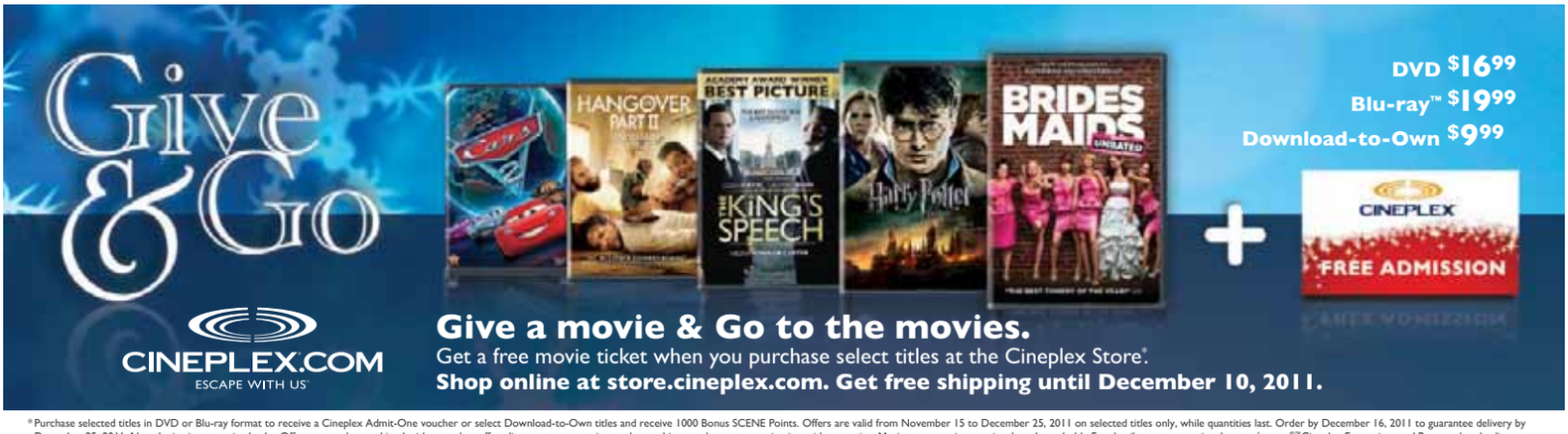
Genre: Drama
Director: Steve McQueen
Stars: Michael Fassbender, Carey Mulligan

British gallery artist turned filmmaker Steve McQueen squanders the promise of his fine debut Hunger on this turgid portrait of a sad-sack sex addict, acted with intensity by Michael Fassbender.

The well-heeled cruelty and big-city anomie feel borrowed from Bret Easton Ellis, but the film is worse than derivative: it's gruelling, high-toned and emotionally contrived.

Carey Mulligan flails badly in a supporting role as Fassbender's hapless party girl sister, and McQueen matches her behind the camera, desperately seeking out arty angles and commanding compositions to give his meanderings some grandeur.

ADAM NAYMAN



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Downey Jr. dusts off his deerstalker

Actor reprises his role as Sherlock Holmes Here, his thoughts on dressing in drag, working with Jude Law

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Robert Downey Jr. knows how to work a room. I notice this while at the swanka-delic Peninsula Hotel in Beverly Hills for a press conference to celebrate the release of Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows.

It's a packed panel, including co-stars Noomi Rapace (the original Girl With the Dragon Tattoo) and Jared Harris, mega producer Joel Silver and Downey's business and life partner Susan. Between them there are untold Oscar nominations and hundreds of millions in box office returns, but that doesn't mean squat when Downey enters and takes centre stage.

All eyes — and 90 per cent of the questions — go to him. Midway he feigns embarrassment at the attention and says, "Why doesn't someone ask Joel Silver a question?"

Why? Because Downey is the most quotable, funny and memorable person in the room, that's why.

Here's a sample of what he had to say.

On making sequels:
"There should be a whole online support team for anyone who has ever been involved in making a second part to a first that worked. There is so much to learn. The greatest disguise was us disguising ourselves as consummate by-the-numbers professionals when, in fact, we're all incredibly eccentric."

When asked to talk about performing Sherlock Holmes's drag scenes:
"I guess we're not talking about this as one of the most important films of the year. I put on some makeup. How are we going to get nominated with these kinds of questions?"

On improving on set:
"I think the goal is to make a well-written scene seem improvised, or to find things in the room you couldn't have known until you get in the real situation and just try and improve things as you go along."

HANDOUT

▶ Robert Downey Jr., left, and Jude Law are Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson.

On why his co-star was absent:
"Jude (Law) would have been here, by the by, but his son had a soccer game."

On keeping the set "green":
"I just remember that every animal that was harmed was promptly taxidermied and sent as a gift to one of the many ecological companies who have these huge concerns that I validate."

On working with Jude Law and director Guy Ritchie:
"Jude and I are pretty close, but Guy and I are practically brothers. There have been times I have wanted to lob off his head with a machete."

On collaborating with his director and fellow actors:
"It was a democracy in the truest and most frustrating and most rewarding sense of the word."

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VANCOUVER

OMNIMAX THEATRE SCIENCE WORLD
1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Arabia (STC) Fri 11-1 Sat-Sun 11-1-3 Mon-Thu 11-1
Dinosaurs Alive! (STC) Fri-Thu 12-2

CN IMAX THEATRE
201-999 Canada Place, 604-682-4629

DENMAN CINEMAS
1779 Comox, 604-558-3456

50/50 (14A) Fri-Tue 7 Wed-Thu 4:30
Buck (G) Fri 12 Mon-Wed 12:30
A Christmas Story (STC) Sat-Sun 12
Drive (18A) Fri-Tue 9
Le Havre (STC) Sat-Thu 4:45
Martha Marcy May Marlene (14A) Fri 1:30 Sat-Thu 2:30

DUNBAR THEATRE
4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Sat-Sun 2:05-4:15
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Thu 10
Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Wed 7-9:20 Thu 7

FIFTH AVENUE CINEMAS
2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

The Artist (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7-9:10
Café de Flore (STC) Fri-Sun 1-3:45-6:50-9:25 Mon-Wed 1-3:45
The Descendants (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-7:15-9:35
Margin Call (14A) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:15-7:20-9:40 Mon-Wed 7:20-9:40
My Week With Marilyn (PG) Fri-Thu 2-4:45-7:10-9:25

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Anonymous (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:35-9:25 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 4:05-6:35-9:25 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 5:40-8:30
The Ides of March (14A) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:45-9:35 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 4:25-6:45-9:35 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 5:55-8:20
In Time (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 7-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 4:30-7-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 5:35-8:10
Moneyball (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:30-9:20 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 4-6:30-9:20 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 5:25-8:15
Puss in Boots (G) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:40-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 4:20-6:40-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 5:25-8:25
The Rum Diary (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:50-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 4:10-6:50-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 5:45-8:40
The Skin I Live In (18A) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:55-9:30 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 4:15-6:55-9:30 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 5:50-8:35

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211
hollywoodtheatre.ca

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

Arthur Christmas (G) Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 1:20
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 7:10-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 4:20-7:10-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 5:20-8:10
The Sitter (14A) DTS Digital Fri 6:50-9:25 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1-4-6:50-9:25 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 5-7:50
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 7-9:45 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7-9:45 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 5:10-8

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456
cinematheque.bc.ca

Aelita: Queen of Mars (STC) Thu 7
The Bride Wore Black (STC) Fri 8:50 Sat 7 Sun 8:50 Wed 7
History and Stories: Documenting Documentaries (STC) Mon 7:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Weekend (STC) Fri 7 Sat 9:05 Sun 7 Wed 9:05 Thu 9:15

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Hugo (G) Fri-Sat 4-6:50-9:25 Sun 1:15-4-6:50-9:25 Mon-Thu 4-6:50-9:25
The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) A.M. Sat 10

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

New Year's Eve (PG) Fri 4-7-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:20

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

The Birdcage (STC) Wed 9:30
Home Alone (STC) Fri 12
Surviving Progress (G) Fri 7-9 Sat 2 Sun-Tue 7-9 Thu 7
Victor/Victoria (STC) Wed 7

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

The Artist (G) Fri 12-2-2:30-4:30-5:15-7:30-8-10:05-10:40 Sat 11:30-12-2-2:30-4:30-5:15-7:30-8-10:05-10:40 Sun 12-2-2:30-4:30-5:15-7:30-8-10:05-10:40 Mon-Thu 2-2:30-4:30-5:10-7:20-7:50-9:50-10:30
Hugo (G) Fri-Sun 12:30 Mon-Thu 1:20
Hugo 3D (G) Fri 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:15 Sat 1-4:20-7:20-10:15 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:15 Mon-Thu 1:45-4:40-7:35-10:25
Immortals 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:50-5:25-8:05-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:25-10:15
The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
The Muppets (G) Fri 12:05-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:35 Sat 11:15-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:35 Sun 12:05-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:35 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:25-7-9:45
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) No Passes Thu 10
Top Gun (STC) Mon 7
Tower Heist (PG) Fri 12:20-3:5:30-8:10-10:40 Sat-Sun 5-8:10-10:40 Mon-Thu 2-4:50-7:40-10:10
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri 1:50-3:30-4:45-6:30-7:40-9:30-10:35 Sat 1:50-3:30-4:45-6:30-7:40-9:30-10:30 Sun 1:50-3:30-4:45-6:30-7:40-9:30-10:35 Mon 1:15-4:4:10-7:10-10:10:20 Tue 1:50-4:10-4:25-7:10-7:30-10:10:20 Wed-Thu 1:15-4:4:10-7:10-10:10:20
A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas (18A) Fri 1-3:20-6-8:20-10:40 Sat 3:45-6-8:20-10:40 Sun 1-3:20-6-8:20-10:45 Mon-Wed 1:15-3:30-6-8:15-10:30 Thu 1:15-3:30-7:15
White Christmas (G) Sun 1

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour Street,
604-683-Film
vifc.org

Dersu Uzala (STC) Fri 8:30 Sat 8:45 Sun 6
Encounters at the End of the World (G) Tue 8:15 Thu 8:15
Grizzly Man (STC) Mon 8:15
Happy People: A Year in the Taiga (STC) Fri 6:30 Sat 5:15-7 Sun 8:45 Mon-Thu 6:30

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313
vaneast.com

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

Happy Feet Two (G) Fri 6:35 Sat-Sun 1:20 Mon-Thu 6:35 Sat-Sun 4:05-6:35
Hugo (G) Fri 6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:45-6:50-9:40
Immortals (18A) Fri-Wed 9:30
J. Edgar (PG) Fri 6:40-10 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:30-6:40-10 Mon-Wed 6:40-10 Thu 6:40-10:05
The Muppets (G) Fri 7:15-9:50 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-7:15-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:50
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri 7-9:55 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:10-4-7-9:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-9:55
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) No Passes Thu 10
The Way (PG) Fri-Thu 7:25-10:10

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

Arthur Christmas (G) Sat-Sun 1:20
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 3:40-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 7-9:20
The Descendants (PG) Fri 6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Puss in Boots 3D (G) Fri 6:40-9 Sat-Sun 1:40-4-6:40-9 Mon-Thu 6:40-9
The Sitter (14A) No Passes Fri 7:20-9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:20-9:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:20-9:25 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri 6:30-9:10 Sat 3:50-6:30-9:10 Sun 1-3:50-6:30-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:10 Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:40

RICHMOND

RICHMOND CENTRE 6
6551 #3 Road, 604-273-7173

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way,
604-272-7280

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri-Thu 1:20
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:20
The Descendants (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:40-6:55-9:50
Desi Boyz (STC) Fri-Thu 7:25-10:25
Happy Feet Two (G) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:15-6:10-9:05
Happy Feet Two: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri-Mon 1-4-7-9:30 Tue-Wed 1-4-7
Hugo (G) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:35
Hugo 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:05-7:20-10:30
Immortals 3D (18A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:35-7:30-10:20
In Time (PG) Fri-Thu 7:10-10:10
Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Thu 4:20-6:55-9:35
Magic to Win (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:35-7:05-9:45
The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (STC) No Passes Thu 12:01
The Muppets (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:05
My Week With Marilyn (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:35-10:05
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri-Wed 1:15-4:15-6:45-7:15-10:10:30 No Passes Thu 4:15-6:45-7:15-10:10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
Puss in Boots (G) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:25
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) No Passes Thu 10:15
The Sitter (14A) No Passes Fri-Wed 2:15-4:45-7:40-10:15 No Passes Thu 4:45-7:40-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05-6:50-9:55
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Wed 12:30-12:55-3:20-3:55-6:30-7:15-9:30-10:15 Thu 12:30-12:55-3:20-3:55-6:30-7:15-9:30
A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18A) Fri 2-5-7:50-10:20 Sat-Sun 5-7:50-10:20 Mon-Thu 2-5-7:50-10:20
White Christmas (G) Sun 1

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Jack and Jill (PG) Fri 5-7 Sat-Sun 1-3-5-7 Mon-Thu 5-7
The Muppets (G) Fri 4:45-6:45-8:45 Sat-Sun 12:45-2:45-4:45-6:45-8:45 Mon-Thu 4:45-6:45-8:45
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 9

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri-Sun 12:10 Mon-Thu 2:40
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:15-7:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 5:15-7:45-10:25
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:25-8-10:30 Mon-Wed 2:45-5:25-8-10:30 Thu 2-4:40-7:15
Hugo 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:10-7:10-10:10
Immortals (18A) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:40-5:20-8-10:45 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:20-8-10:45
Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Thu 8:10-10:40
The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (STC) No Passes Thu 12:01-9
The Muppets (G) Fri-Sun 12:2:35-5:10-7:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:35-5:10-7:45-10:25
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri 2:10-5-7:50-10:40 No Passes Sat 11:15-2:10-5-7:50-10:40 No Passes Sun-Wed 2:10-5-7:50-10:40 No Passes Thu 8:05-10:50 No Passes Thu 2:10-5
Puss in Boots (G) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:15-5:40 Mon-Thu 1-3:15-5:40
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) No Passes Thu 10
The Sitter (14A) No Passes Fri 1:30-3:45-6-8:20-10:35 No Passes Sat 11:15-1:30-3:45-6-8:20-10:35 No Passes Sun-Thu 1:30-3:45-6-8:20-10:35
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Tue 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:10 Wed 1:10-4-7:20-10:10 Thu 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:10
A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18A) Fri 12:55-3:20-5:40-8-10:20 Sat 5:40-8-10:20 Sun 12:55-3:20-5:40-8-10:20 Mon-Tue 1-3:20-5:40-8-10:20 Wed 1-3:20-10:20 Thu 1-3:20-5:40

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Anonymous (PG) Fri-Sat 9:35 Sun-Thu 6:55
Footloose (PG) Fri 7:20 Sat 1:30-7:20 Sun 1:30-4:35 Mon-Thu 4:35
In Time (PG) Fri 4:40-7:25-10 Sat 1:35-4:40-7:25-10 Sun 1:35-4:40-7:25 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:25
J. Edgar (PG) Fri 4:10-7:05-9:55 Sat 1:15-4:10-7:05-9:55 Sun 1:15-4:10-7:05 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:05
Johnny English Reborn (PG) Fri 4:25-6:55 Sat 1:45-4:25-6:55 Sun 1:45-4:25 Mon-Thu 4:25
Paranormal Activity 3 (14A) Fri-Sat 4:35-10 Sun-Thu 7:20
Real Steel (PG) Fri 4:15-7:9:45 Sat 1:20-4:15-7:9:45 Sun 1:20-4:15-7 Mon-Thu 4:15-7
Tower Heist (PG) Fri 4:30-7:15-9:40 Sat 1:40-4:30-7:15-9:40 Sun 1:40-4:30-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:15
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri 4:20-7:10-9:50 Sat 1:25-4:20-7:10-9:50 Sun 1:25-4:20-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:10

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri-Thu 1:10
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri-Thu 4:05-7:10-9:35
The Descendants (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:35-10:25
Happy Feet Two (G) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:30
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:45-6:55-9:20
Hugo 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:50-7:15-10:10
Immortals 3D (18A) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:25-7:40-10:30
J. Edgar (PG) Fri-Mon 6:45-9:55 Wed-Thu 6:45-9:55
The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
The Muppets (G) Fri-Tue 1-3:40-6:45-9:30 Wed 3:40-6:45-9:30 Thu 1-3:40-6:45-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
My Week With Marilyn (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:45-7:15-9:50
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10
Punch (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:45-7:05-9:45 Tue-Thu 1:10-3:45-7:05-9:45
Puss in Boots (G) Fri-Mon 1:05-4:15 Wed-Thu 1:05-4:15
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) No Passes Thu 10
The Sitter (14A) No Passes Fri-Tue 2:50-5-7:30-10:15 No Passes Wed 5-7:30-10:15 No Passes Thu 2:50-5-7:30-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Thu 7:25-10:05
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Sat 1-1:25-3:40-4:10-6:50-7:20-9:40-10:15 Sun 1-3:40-4:10-6:50-7:20-9:40-10:15 Mon-Thu 1-1:25-3:40-4:10-6:50-7:20-9:40-10:15
A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18A) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:40-7:45-10:20 Tue-Wed 1:25-4:40-7:45-10:20 Thu 1:25-4:40-7:45
White Christmas (G) Sun 1

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

Happy Feet Two (G) Sat 1:30
The Rum Diary (PG) Fri-Thu 7
Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Thu 9:15

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th Street, Surrey,
604-592-4441

Dolphin Tale (STC) Sat-Sun 12:30-2:35
J. Edgar (PG) Fri-Thu 8:30
Johnny English Reborn (PG) Fri 4:50 Sat-Sun 12:30-4:50 Mon-Thu 4:50
Paranormal Activity 3 (14A) Fri-Thu 9:15
Puss in Boots (G) Fri 4:45-6:45 Sat-Sun 12:45-2:45-4:45-6:45 Mon-Thu 4:45-6:45
Real Steel (PG) Fri 6:50 Sat-Sun 2:30-6:50 Mon-Thu 6:50
Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Thu 4:45-6:45
A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18A) Fri-Thu 8:45

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri 2:30 Sat-Sun 12 Mon-Thu 2:30
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri 5-7:30-10 Sat-Sun 2:30-5-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 5-7:30-10
Desi Boyz (STC) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:05
The Dirty Picture (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:05-7:20-10:35
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Fri 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:15 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:15
Hugo (G) Fri 2:20 Sat-Sun 12 Mon-Wed 2:20 Thu 1
Hugo 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:10
Immortals (18A) Fri 5:30-8:10-10:45 Sat-Sun 2:50-5:30-8:10-10:45 Mon-Wed 5:30-8:10-10:45 Thu 4:10-7
Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:25-5:50-8:20-10:45
Ladies vs. Ricky Bahl (STC) Fri 12:45-3:50-7:10:10 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:50-7:10:10 Mon-Thu 12:45-3:50-7:10:10
The Muppets (G) Fri 2:45-5:20-8-10:40 Sat-Sun 12:05-2:45-5:20-8-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:45-5:20-8-10:40
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 2:10-5-7:50-10:40 No Passes Wed 5-7:50-10:40 No Passes Thu 2:10-5-7:50-10:40 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) No Passes Thu 10
The Sitter (14A) No Passes Fri-Tue 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:30 No Passes Wed 3:45-6-8:15-10:30 No Passes Thu 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Thu 2-4:45-7:35-10:20

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

Arthur Christmas (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 3:15-6:20-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5-7:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:15-6:20-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5-7:45
Desi Boyz (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:20-6:15-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3:20-6:15-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:10-8:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:20-6:15-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:10-8:10
Happy Feet Two (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:30-6:30-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45-3:30-6:30-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:05-7:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:30-6:30-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:05-7:50
Hugo (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:20-4:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:15
Hugo 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:35-6:25-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:50-3:35-6:25-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:20-8:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:35-6:25-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:20-8:30
Immortals 3D (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 7:30-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:45-8:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 7:30-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:45-8:40
Jack and Jill (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:50-6:40-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:35-3:50-6:40-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:10-7:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:50-6:40-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:10-7:55
The Muppets (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:10-7:10-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:15-4:10-7:10-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:25-8 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:10-7:10-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:25-8
New Year's Eve (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:45-7-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:45-7-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:40-8:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:45-7-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:40-8:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 1
Puss in Boots (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:25-12:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:25
The Sitter (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:20-7:20-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:30-8:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:20-7:20-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:30-8:35
Tower Heist (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 6:35-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:35-8:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 6:35-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:35-8:15
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4-6:50-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:10-4-6:50-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:15-8:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4-6:50-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:15-8:05
A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:30-7:25-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:40-4:30-7:25-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:50-8:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:30-7:25-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:50-8:45

RIALTO
1732-152nd Street, White Rock,
604-541-9527, criteriontheatres.com

Hugo (G) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 2-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri 7:10-9:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:10-9:20

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Highway,
604-531-7456, criteriontheatres.com

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri 7:20-9:20 Sat-Sun 2:20-7:20-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:20
The Muppets (G) Fri 7:10-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:15 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:15
The Sitter (14A) Fri 7:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-7:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri 7-9:25 Sat-Sun 2-7-9:25 Mon-Thu 7-9:25

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

Arthur Christmas (G) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:35 Mon-Thu 4:05
Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:20-7:05-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:05-10:05
The Descendants (PG) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:50-6:35-9:35 Mon-Thu 3:50-6:35-9:35
Happy Feet Two (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:30 Mon-Thu 3:45
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:25-10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:25-10
Happy Feet Two: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-9:30 Mon 4-7-9:30 Tue 4-7 Wed 4-7-9:30
Hugo (G) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:45 Mon-Thu 4:45
Hugo 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:35-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:35-10:25
Immortals 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:35-7:40-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:40-10:25
In Time (PG) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:55
Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Sat 1:20-4:10-6:50-9:20 Sun-Thu 4:10-6:50-9:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Sat 9:55
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (STC) No Passes Thu 12:01-9
The Muppets (G) Fri 12:40-1:05-3:40-3:55-6:30-6:55-9:15-9:45 Sat 12:40-3:40-4:10-6:30-6:55-9:15-9:45 Sun 12:40-1:05-3:40-4:10-6:30-6:55-9:15-9:45 Mon 3:55-4:10-6:30-7-9:15-9:45 Tue-Wed 3:55-4:10-6:30-6:55-9:15-9:45 Thu 3:55-4:10-6:30-6:55-9:15
My Week With Marilyn (PG) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:25-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:10-9:50
New Year's Eve (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:50-4-7-7:30-10-10:30 No Passes Mon-Tue 4-7-7:30-10-10:30 No Passes Wed 7-7:30-10-10:30 No Passes Thu 4-7-7:30-10-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 3
Puss in Boots 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:05-7:15-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:15-10:15
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) No Passes Thu 10
The Sitter (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:55-4:45-7:45-10:15 No Passes Mon-Tue 4:45-7:45-10:15 No Passes Wed 7:45-10:15 No Passes Thu 4:45-7:45-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 3
Top Gun (STC) Mon 7
Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-4:40-7:25-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:25-10:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-1:15-3:45-4:15-6:40-7:20-9:40-10:10 Mon 3:45-4:15-6:40-9:40-10:10 Tue-Thu 3:45-4:15-6:40-7-9:40-10:10
A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18A) Fri-Thu 7:50-10:20
White Christmas (G) Sun 1

TWILIGHT DRIVE-IN
260th Street & Fraser Highway, Langley,
604-856-5063

Listings not available at press time.

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of Molson Canadian 67

67 calories
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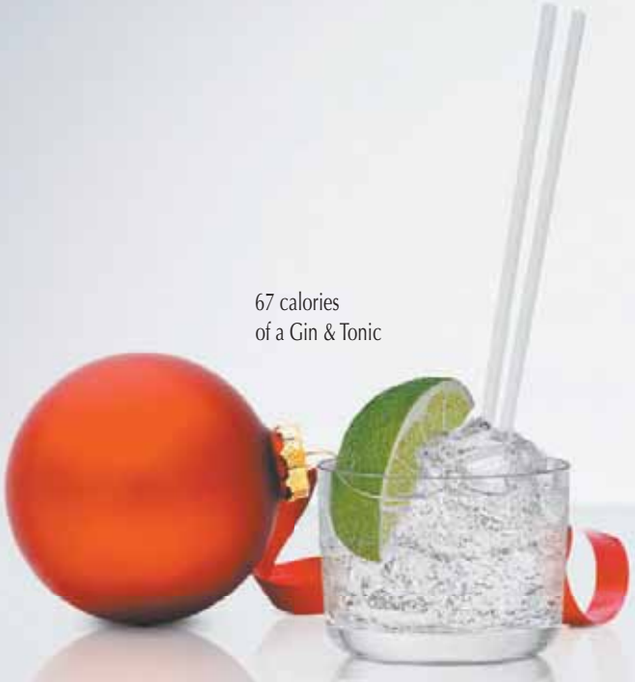

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67

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She's a little Fireball

Willow Smith wants her fans to be feel empowered by her newest album

DONALD TRAILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Singer Willow Smith is promoting the release of her latest music video, Fireball, with Nicki Minaj.

Willow Smith is all about kid empowerment.

The young singer says she's hoping to inspire listeners with her upcoming album Knees and Elbows.

"It's gonna make them feel like they have control over their lives and can do what they want to do and be the person they want to be," she said Wednesday night.

Willow is already proving that at just 11. The daughter of Will and Jada Pinkett Smith has become a buzzed-about star thanks to her hit song Whip My Hair. She's also become a fashion trendsetter with her funky clothes; on Wednesday, her hair was closely cropped with big bangs in the front, and she wore a cropped jacket with decals, including the name of her album, and sequined jeans.

"I get a lot of my style from my friends," she said, also citing her aunt.

Willow recently teamed up with another fashionista, singer-rapper Nicki Minaj, for Willow's new song Fireball. Willow premiered it for groups of children and their parents at the Sony Store, as well as BET's 106 & Park.

"Everybody falls down and scrapes their knees and elbows but they eventually get back up," she said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2011'S MUSICIANS WHO DESERVE ANOTHER LOOK

SOUND CHECK

ALAN CROSS
SCENE
@METRONEWS.CA

There's just too much music these days.

No wonder that so much great stuff—a disturbing amount—slips through the cracks. Here's a list of artists and albums that you may have missed over the last twelve months.

Cults/Cults

A boy-girl band from Manhattan who went from mysterious indie duo to major label signing in the space of just a few months. I dare you not to sing along.

Cut Copy/Zonoscope

Third album from this Australian electronic band which has been nominated for a Grammy.

EMA/Past Life Martyred Saints

EMA is Erika M. Anderson, who makes music out of what seems to be a succession of life crises. It's the kind of powerful, painful stuff that Courtney Love used to make about twenty years ago.

PJ Harvey/Let England Shake

No two PJ Harvey albums ever sound alike. Her tenth album is nothing short of stunning. No wonder it won Britain's Mercury Prize.

Lykke Li/Wounded Rhymes

Think of her as Sweden's answer to Bjork and Tori Amos but without the attendant weirdness. A hit in Scandinavia, it should have garnered more mainstream attention elsewhere.

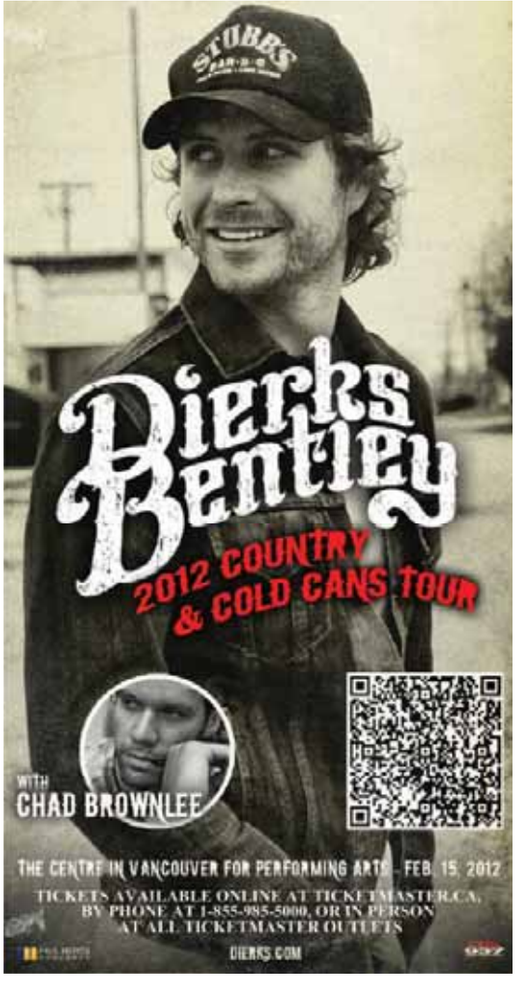
The Kills/Blood Pressures

Yes, I have a thing for Alison Mosshart , whom you might remember from working with Jack White in The Dead Weather. If the band name sounds familiar, it might because the other half of the band, Jamie Hince, married Kate Moss this past summer.

My Morning Jacket/Circuital

Think a more psychedelic Kings of Lion. Maybe their Grammy nomination in the Best Alternative Album category will goose things for the band.

ALAN IS THE HOST OF THE RADIO SHOW THE SECRET HISTORY OF ROCK. REACH HIM AT ALAN@ALANCROSS.CA



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3490 Kingsway
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1392 Main St.

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Admiralty Centre Mall
Ironwood Mall
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Winning over fickle TV fans

Film and television execs try to lure viewers with aggressive marketing stunts and touring showcases

Gone are the days when a loyal TV viewer would turn the dial to a stalwart network like CBS and settle in for the evening.

Rare, too, is the film fan with a standing date to catch a big theatrical release on opening day.

And so it goes that comic Patton Oswalt recently found himself on a cross-country tour to pitch his new film Young Adult directly to movie-goers along with actress Charlize Theron and director Jason Reitman, theatre by theatre, town by town.

"I want people to discover this movie ... just with sort of a blank brain, rather than me putting any ideas into their heads right now," Oswalt says of the promotional strategy, which had the offbeat feature skipping the more usual festival circuit in favour of secret screenings with average viewers. "And just show them that, 'Hey, I'm excited about this, we're excited about this.'"

Film and TV marketers have been getting especially creative in their attempts to lure eyeballs in their direction, resorting to publicity stunts that seem to rely more and more on reaching out to viewers directly with on-the-street campaigns.

Stunts in 2011 included a flash mob in Toronto meant to promote the big-budget sci-fi spectacle Green Lantern. Marketing guru Mike Vollman says hitting the road with a movie and its cast is nothing new, but he acknowledges that out-of-the box tactics are a sign of the times.

"It's certainly harder to find the audiences — everyone is super-distracted, everybody I know spends their entire day with their head buried into an electronic device," says Vollman, an L.A.-based consultant with 20 years experience working with Disney, DreamWorks, Paramount and MGM.

"That has also made it super-hard to get a hold of people but that doesn't mean a flash mob is going to make you see Green Lantern."

Lewchuk says bold, unusual stunts can at least get an audience to sit up and pay attention, and that's a good thing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

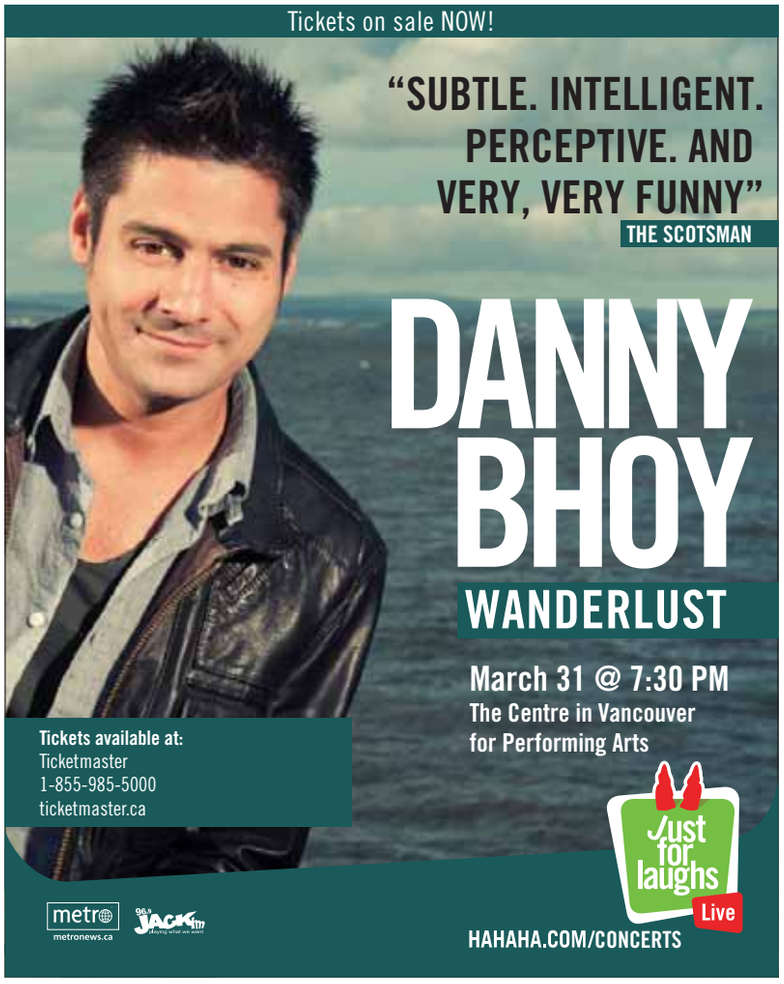
BOB D'AMICO/ABC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Jet set fun: Pan Am is a globe-spanning melodrama set in the Kennedy presidency.

Watch us... please?

CTV pushed their fall line-up by setting up airplane-shaped screening rooms in shopping malls across Canada staffed with look-alike Pan Am flight attendants who invited mall rats to catch an early glimpse of rookie shows including Pan Am, X Factor and Grimm.

CTV marketing honcho Rick Lewchuk says the campaign was unusual but necessary to highlight a programming slate in an increasingly competitive entertainment field. "If you don't go the extra effort and you don't do those extra things then you're just kind of doing what everybody else is doing," says Lewchuk, senior vice president of Bell Media Agency, CTV's in-house marketing and promotions division. "They're time consuming, they're a little bit more work, but they're fun and I think the viewers appreciate it."



CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Former television presenter Regis Philbin promotes his book How I Got This Way in Toronto on Wednesday.

How Regis Got This Way

TV legend pens book about famous people who changed him

Regis Philbin still gets worked up about the 17-year-old Seinfeld episode in which he called Kramer "bonkos."

"Oh my God, I lose my breath every time I think about it," says the perennially exasperated TV host.

The anecdote is detailed in How I Got This Way, Philbin's new memoir about his encounters with a seemingly endless parade of celebrities including Jerry Seinfeld, George Clooney, Howard Stern, Steven Spielberg, George Steinbrenner and Joe DiMaggio.

Last month, Philbin left Live! With Regis and Kelly after more than 28 years on morning television, many of them spent with co-hosts Kathie Lee Gifford and Kelly Ripa. During the daily host chat segment on Live!, he mastered the art of turning an everyday incident into an engaging story.

"Confidence is really the key. You've got to have it, you've got to express it. Tell everybody what you want and go get it."
REGIS PHILBIN

Regis unplugged

After spending an astounding 16,000 hours on television since the early 1950s, Philbin has crossed paths with some major stars.

▶ **In How I Got This Way,** he relates those meetings with the same insider-y dish that proved so irresistible to Live! viewers.

It's a talent that's on display from the moment he shows up for a 9 a.m. interview.

"You wouldn't believe what I've been through!" says the excitable entertainer, launching into a colourful tale about a lost passport.

As for the job he has just left, Philbin says he's been so busy promoting his book that he's had little time to miss Live!

Written in a highly readable format, each chapter of How I Got This Way is about someone who made an impact on Philbin and concludes with a summary of what the Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? personality took away from the encounter.

"I just kept writing about those incidents that moved me in some way," says Philbin. "I thought, this can happen from spending one night with someone, or a meeting with someone, or just brushing against them in some way — that they can, in another way, change you for the better."

Philbin writes about a wild night he and wife Joy spent at Clooney's Italian villa on Lake Como. He tells of his initial encounter with shock jock Stern (his neighbour in New York City) and his friendship with the late Yankees owner Steinbrenner. He also details an encounter at Yankee Stadium with his childhood idol DiMaggio.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Who's Fascinating to Barbara Walters

Who's been naughty, who's been nice: Walters chats to 10 of the most prominent news-makers of 2011

On her new TV special, Barbara Walters gets up close and personal with Donald Trump.

Maybe too personal.

"We started with his hair," confides Walters. "He said, 'Pull it and you can see that it's not a hairpiece.' So I did. And I still think it's a hairpiece."

Trump — the follically perplexing reality star, businessman and sometimes presidential candidate — is on Walters' list of The 10 Most Fascinating People of 2011, which airs on ABC on Wednesday at 9:30 p.m. EST. It's the 19th annual compilation of the year's most prominent names in entertainment, sports and popular culture.

Walters says she questioned Trump on his year of political adventures, which included commandeering the "birther" bandwagon by stoking doubt about U.S. President Barack Obama's U.S. citizenship, and by teasing voters with the prospect of his stepping into the presidential race as a Republican candidate (Trump, of course, then opted not to take the leap).

"But he still is talking about running," Walters says.

"He told me, 'If the Republicans pick the wrong person, if the economy continues to be bad, I would certainly consider running as an independent.'"

Other Fascinating People include talent-show baron Simon Cowell, pop singing sensation Katy Perry and New York Yankees star Derek Jeter, who tells Walters that he'd like to own an athletic team.

"I told him, 'You're making a lot of money. You could buy one,'" reports Walters. "And he says, 'Great. I'll buy one with you.' We made a deal."

Also on board are Jesse Tyler Ferguson and Eric Stonestreet, the loving on-screen couple from ABC's comedy hit Modern Family, and the Kardashian reality TV family.

Other Fascinating names include Pippa Middleton, dishy sister of British royal Kate, and Amanda Knox, the former Seattle exchange student whose four years in custody ended in October when an Italian court overturned her murder conviction in the death of her roommate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DONNA SVENNEVIK/ABC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Katy Perry, left, with Barbara Walters in New York in November.

Kardashian insight

Walters weighs in on the Kardashians sisters:

▶ "They're pretty women, they're glamorous and they don't know private from public," Walters says. "And they're part of a family — one for all and all for one — that people relate to."

TV picks

Robyn shows SNL some love

KATY PERRY TO HOST. On Saturday Night Live, it's a pop-star extravaganza as American hit maker Katy Perry takes on the role of host and Swedish recording artist Robyn performs. Both singers were recently nominated for Grammy awards. (Global, NBC)

An Idiot goes deep-sea fishing

WHEN IN ALASKA. Karl Pilkington, who's starred alongside comedy giants Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant in their popular podcast, rides a deep-sea fishing trawler in Alaska on An Idiot Abroad: The Bucket List on Friday.

It's just one of many adventures Gervais and Merchant push Pilkington into for the series. (Discovery Channel)

Whose line is it, Canada?

IMPROV MEETS CHRISTMAS. Acclaimed Canadian improv troupe The National Theatre of the World presents A Very F—ing Mamet Christmas, featuring special guest Ron James on Sunday.

National Theatre of the World has won three Canadian Comedy Awards. (CBC)

Amazing Race, amazing drama

WHO SAID SUNDAY WAS THE DAY OF REST? The Amazing Race finale on Sunday (CBS, CTV) is followed by an intense episode of The Good Wife, in which Alicia tries to have a judgment thrown out after her client is shockingly found guilty. (Global, CBS)

Did RCMP not protect women?

FIFTH ESTATE PROBE. The investigative journalism series CBC News: the Fifth Estate delves into sexual harassment allegations at the RCMP on Friday night.

Featured is the story of women who signed up to Canada's pre-eminent police force and now claim it failed to protect them. (CBC)

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kardashian's choice

Kris Jenner to help pick next Miss America ◐ Winner based on talent, looks and interviewing skills — remember Miss South Carolina Teen USA anyone?

Kardashian matriarch Kris Jenner is on a panel of seven judges who will pick next year's Miss America during a pageant in January in Las Vegas.

Jenner, a star of cable reality show Keeping Up With the Kardashians, will join Meet the Parents actress Teri Polo and ABC's lifestyle anchor Lara Spencer on the panel announced Wednesday.

Also judging the pageant will be Dancing With the Stars dancer Mark Ballas, The Bachelor executive producer Mike Fleiss, Extreme Makeover: Weight Loss Edition host Chris Powell and Raul de Molina, a former photographer and host of Univision entertainment news show El Gordo y la Flaca.

The pageant's finals are scheduled for Jan. 14 at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino and will air live on ABC.

The judges will interview the state contestants and judge them in preliminary competitions during the week leading up to the pageant, eventually picking a winner based on looks, talent and interviewing skills.

This year's winner, Teresa Scanlan of Nebraska, won at age 17 and is the youngest Miss America since the pageant implemented age limits in 1938.

The pageant will be hosted by The Bachelor host Chris Harrison, who's at the start of a two-year deal hosting the competition.

Miss America started in 1921 as a bathing revue.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

$45M Miss America Organization touts itself as the country's largest provider of scholarships to young women, giving more than $45 million last year.

Who's in?

▶ **The pageant's finals** are scheduled for Jan. 14 at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino and will air live on ABC.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Kris Jenner

Hollywood's Power 100

The most influential women in entertainment gathered at the Beverly Hills Hotel to celebrate

▶ the cast of Bridesmaids placed 44 on the list of most influential women.

For the 20th consecutive year, Hollywood's most powerful women came together to break bread and celebrate their achievements in entertainment.

Jane Fonda and the late filmmaker Laura Ziskin were honoured at the breakfast ceremony Wednesday at the Beverly Hills Hotel, held by the Hollywood Reporter in concert with its annual Power 100 ranking of the entertainment industry's most powerful women.

"This list matters," said Janice Min, the magazine's editorial director. "Acknowledging the achievements of women in a town where only 16 per cent of all powerful, behind-the-scenes jobs are held by them — and that number is declining — is important."

Anne Sweeney, co-chairman of Disney Media Networks, tops the list.

Chelsea Handler, who ranked 97th on the list, welcomed guests including Nancy Grace (ranked 86th) and reality star Bethenny Frankel (No. 100 on the list), along with actresses Kate Bosworth and Emmy Rossum and the ubiquitous Kim Kardashian.

Actress Kirsten Dunst and Sony Pictures co-chairman Amy Pascal (No. 2 on the Power 100 list) presented a tribute to Spider-Man producer and Stand Up To Cancer founder Ziskin, who helped raise more than $180 million for cancer research before succumbing to the disease in June.

▶ Nancy Grace

▶ Chelsea Handler

Former Paramount Pictures chief Sherry Lansing lauded her friend Fonda for her pioneering work in film, fitness, philanthropy and activism, presenting the 73-year-old actress with the Sherry Lansing Leadership Award.

Lansing said that Fonda has "led us artistically and made us question our lives politically."

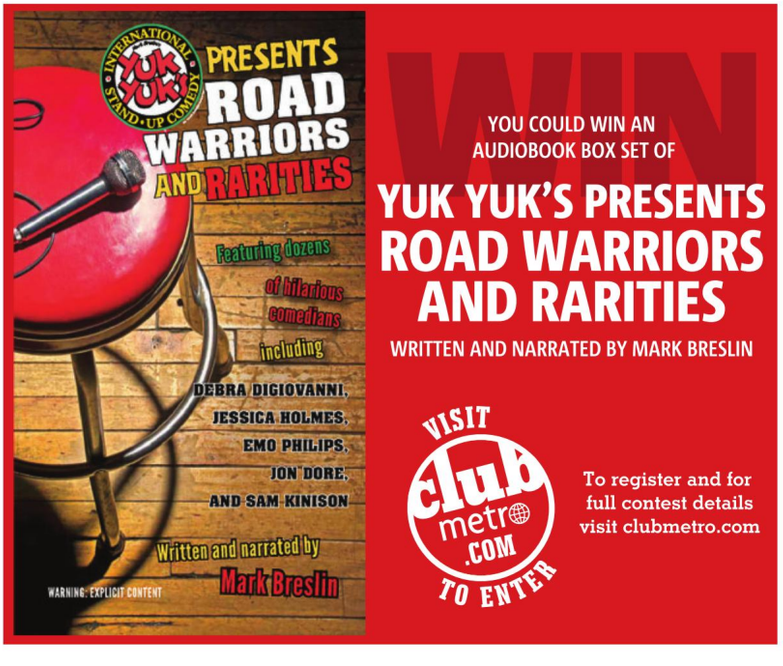
"I still idolize you, Jane, and you still inspire me," the former studio chief said.

Fonda said that while women have made strides in front of and behind the camera, the entertainment industry needs more female decision makers.

"Until more women wield the power to decide what movies and TV shows get made, Hollywood culture won't really yield all the fascinating complexities that are the realities of women's lives," she said. "Until then, we're accepting supporting roles in an industry many of us have devoted our lives to."

The next generation of female leaders also participated in the annual Women in Entertainment breakfast. The Help author Kathryn Stockett and stars Viola Davis and Octavia Spencer introduced 12 Los Angeles-area high school juniors who will be mentored by female entertainment executives for the next year through a program launched in 2009 by the Hollywood Reporter and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Great games — no batteries

Nostalgia rules this year as parents want their kids to discover the board games they loved

ALL PHOTOS ASSOCIATED PRESS/DESI SCARPONE

In Christmas Past, children would find all sorts of simple games under the tree: Tiddlywinks, pickup sticks and board games could amuse young minds for hours.

Batteries and computer chips have made much of kid's play an electronic spectator sport today, but there are signs of some pushback.

Retailers are offering a variety of vintage-style games, and many baby boomers are seeking out the toys they remember fondly — puzzles, board games and the like.

Steven Josephson, owner of The Toy Box store in Mamaroneck, N.Y., said board games are always a big seller "but in the last couple of years, they've really been popular. People remember the old-fashioned games like Monopoly, Stratego, Sorry, and want their own kids to play them. Parcheesi's come way back this year."

At the New York International Gift Fair this fall, gift retailer Wild & Wolf drew crowds to its Ridley's collection of vintage-style games.

The line features many old favourites, including marbles, jacks and tumbling blocks. (Available at Burkedecor.com, among other sites.) The package designs are retro too: cardboard or tin boxes, muted colours, early 20th-century-style lithography.

And indeed, the visuals are part of the appeal of these games. There's something charming about a toy that doesn't come in a loud, primary-coloured box, or a plastic case.

Hasbro has teamed up with Target this season to offer classic board games in wooden boxes, including Life, Clue, Risk and Scrabble.

"Key words for Christmas 2011 are nostalgia, family, tradition and longevity," says Riann Henckel, a forecaster for Sphere Trending, in Waterford, Mich.

If you're interested in the actual, original board games you played as a kid, you'll find sources online.

Prices are often surprisingly modest, in the $20 range.

Los Angeles-based game collector Desi Scarpone has been an aficionado of board games since he was young, and rues the day he let his mom get rid of his old ones. Scarpone sells games from the 1940s through the 1990s at his website, 4gamesgoneby.com. They include some rare ones like 1951's Space Pilot, 1967's The Monkees, and a copy of the only Beatles game ever made, Flip Your Wig.

"There's been a steady resurgence in vintage board game popularity for the last several years. The children of my generation have children of their own, and they want them to feel the same joy and excitement they originally felt when playing these games," says Scarpone.

While today's game graphics tend to scream for attention, "People respond to the innocence of the artwork they remember in a vintage game," he notes.

At Vintagegameworld.com, there's a comprehensive array of mid-century games, and browsing can be a visit back in time.

There are old faves like Aggravation, Monopoly, Hi-Q and Careers, but also Easy Money, Acquire and Stock Market ("Anyone can make a million!").

Before there were Gears of War or Battlefield, you could play Tobruk, a war strategy game based in Second World War North Africa, or Arab-Israeli Wars, where you re-enact tank battles, or the classic Risk. The site's also got games that exploited TV culture of the '60s and '70s: Man From U.N.C.L.E., Happy Days, I Spy, Six Million Dollar Man.

If you're lucky enough to still own an old favourite but misplaced some parts, they have a substantial inventory. And if your instructions are long lost, you may find them here too.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAMIE MCCARTHY/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Nicki Minaj at the Victoria's Secret show in New York.

In case you didn't want your young daughter growing up to idolize a blonde, unhealthily proportioned woman who owns convertibles, Jeeps and veterinary clinics, she can now grow up to instead idolize skimpily dressed, alcohol-loving celebrities with multicolored hair, who also own everything.

As TMZ reports, longtime Barbie creator Mattel is planning to launch dolls for Nicki Minaj and Katy Perry. The dolls are said to include striking similarities to the real pop princesses like the tattoo on Nicki Minaj's left arm.

What little girl wouldn't love that?

Minaj has garnered a following of fans who refer to themselves as "Barbies" in honour of the singer's fondness for crazy blonde wigs and the colour pink. Both Minaj and Perry are known for breaking the mold when it comes to fashion. Usually they're both spotted wearing outfits Barbie wouldn't be caught dead in.

Nicki Minaj's Barbie, at least, is reportedly set to be auctioned off for the charity Project Angel Food, with bids starting at $1,000. Katy Perry's Barbie did not comment on whether she will be auctioned off for charity, too – she was hungover after waking up in Vegas.

We're looking forward to seeing the outfits these Barbie's will rock.

We're rooting for our favourite looks: A lime green sports bra just low enough for a nip-slip for Minaj and a cherry-topped cupcake bra for Perry.

METRO

‘We’ve got a lot of chubby kids now’

Bill Cosby remembers ballfields from his youth, wonders where the kids have gone

Bill Cosby played football at Temple, ran track for the Owls and still attends their basketball games.

But baseball? Not so much while growing up at the Richard Allen projects in Philadelphia.

“No, no, no. I wasn’t any good,” the comedian told The Associated Press recently. “But I was fast. I think I held the record for the highest batting average — maybe .300 or something — for someone who never hit the ball out of the infield.”

There was the time he stole, too. A high school classmate’s glove, that is.

“I got caught,” he said. “I learned I wasn’t a very good lookout for myself and better find something else to do.”

Those stories aren’t in his book that came out last month, I Didn’t Ask to Be Born (But I’m Glad I Was).

There is a delightful tale, though, of the day his pal Peanut Armhouse got called home by his mom while playing softball and dared to ignore her. While the other boys stood petrified by her shouts, ol’ Peanut picked up the ball, hit a weak grounder and did his own play-by-play while rounding the bases.

“As Byron Saam would,” Cosby writes, referencing the famed Phillies announcer for four decades.

Back in the 1940s, schoolyards and sandlots in his neighbourhood were full of kids playing baseball and softball. Or stepball, with players tossing a bouncy ball off the angled steps of Philly’s row houses. Or even hose-ball, a game he recalled that used a cutup, four-inch piece of garden hose as the ball.

At 74, Cosby doesn’t see crowded inner-city fields anymore.

“Look at how desperate we were to play. We’d be out there trying to catch a rock, in the dark,” he said. “But schools cut out gym classes. Schools cut off recess. We’ve got a lot of chubby kids now.”

Some of those kids, he observed, prefer to play baseball on a computer screen rather than with real bats and balls.

“What they’re building are remedial gyms,” Cosby said.

Cosby is concerned many would-be ballplayers are being priced out.

“Those gloves don’t cost 12 cents,” he said. “What do they cost now, $400? And it costs $600 or something to join some of these leagues.

“And remember, there are places now where you can’t just go running around, the bullets are flying,” he said.

Quite a difference from when he’d show up to play in the Police Athletic League. There, at the 69th PAL, bats and gloves and uniforms were provided. Everything except the shoes.

“Mine were cardboard and leather,” Cosby said.

No matter, he was a pretty slick-fielding second baseman in those days. That’s his story, anyway.

“I could turn the double play. I’d come across, put my foot against the back left corner of the bag and sidearm that throw,” Cosby said. “That I could do.”

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Cosby story

- Bill Cosby’s grandfather was a devout Phillies fan who kept two radios cranked up at home so he could listen to games from every room.
- When Cosby began to succeed in show business, he bought him a special present: season tickets on the third base side at Connie Mack Stadium.

CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ In this 2009 photo, Dustin Pedroia of the Boston Red Sox laughs as he jokes with comedian Bill Cosby while sitting in the dugout prior to a game.

Lohan's shoot leaks

Lindsay Lohan to appear on Ellen to officially unveil her Playboy cover

The cover of Lindsay Lohan's issue of Playboy has leaked a week ahead of its unveiling, according to Hollyscoop.

The vintage-themed cover features a naked Lohan straddling a red chair in the shape of the Playboy bunny logo that strategically blocks certain parts of her body.

"The pictorial is absolutely fantastic and very tasteful, and will be accompanied by an interview that will let readers see another side of Lindsay," her rep has said of the magazine's content.

Lohan is still set to appear on Ellen DeGeneres' show next week to officially unveil the issue and give her first interview since violating her parole.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Lindsay Lohan will bare it all — this time for money.

Talking points

Nothing Wilde to see here

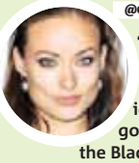
RELATIONSHIPS. While Olivia Wilde has maintained that her love life is pretty quiet despite reports to the contrary, sources now say she's been dating Saturday Night Live star Jason Sudeikis — and apparently has been for a while, according to Us Weekly.

"She's come to the studio at Rockefeller Center, and they've gone out to dinner after rehearsals," a source says, adding that "they walked in holding hands" at the show's most recent after-party. METRO

Celebrity tweets

@jasonsegal

"When I got my house the cable guy said "oh man, you bought the crazy house. This house makes people go crazy. All the cable guys know that"



@oliviawilde

"sometimes i have good ideas, like going to see the Black Keys. and then sometimes i decide to eat dinner while watching Contagion. doh."

@AlbertBrooks

"It seems Alec Baldwin quit Twitter. His followers are welcome here, but prepare to martyr yourself when I ask."

Is Lauer out at Today?

NBC Universal courting Ryan Seacrest to replace Matt Lauer as host of Today

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Rumor has it that NBC Universal is courting Ryan Seacrest to replace Matt Lauer on the Today show next year.

Although Lauer hasn't announced his retirement, he has hinted at it quite seriously, and NBC wants someone big to replace him. And it's starting to look like that someone is our generation's version of Dick Clark.

The Wall Street Journal announced the news of the courting on Thursday but so far NBC is keeping mum on the speculation.

ALL PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

▶ Ryan Seacrest

A Today spokesperson went on record about the move, saying, "there seems to be an awful lot of speculation around news anchors these days, and it's not our practice to comment on any of it. Matt Lauer has a long-term contract with NBC News and Today."

Here's the thing: Seacrest is an amazing entertainer and host and deserves all the success that comes with his self-made media empire.

But does the guy have the chops to report on something as heavy as, say, terrorist attacks?

He's too tan. Too involved in the Kardashians. Too smiley.

But maybe that's me just being a Hollywoodist. And maybe what the show needs is Seacrest interviewing a head of state and then ending it with his trademark, "Seacrest, out!"

What do you think about this possible job move? Write in to let me know.

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Plus a goody bag with surprises then,
a train ride into the decorated forest.
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10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
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▶ Angelina Jolie

Jolie brushes off lawsuit claims

Angelina Jolie isn't too worried about being sued by a writer who claims she stole his idea for the directorial debut.

"In the Land of Blood and Honey," according to the L.A. Times. "It's par for the course. It happens on every film," Jolie says.

Author James Braddock claims the film is an adaptation of his book the Soul Shattering, which was published in 2007.

"There are many books and documentaries that I did pull from," Jolie says. "It's a combination of many people's stories. But that particular book I've never seen." METRO

Drinking like it's 1999

PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

I saw Prince in concert last week and while I'm not sure if it was his out-of-control funkfest (hello, the guy is 53!) or having drinks after the show with a female friend who looks even better than she did in college, I can testify that some things do get better with age.

Wines can be a lot like that, but not always. Most mid-priced vino is drank within 48 hours of leaving the shelf so many winemakers design their juice to accommodate immediate drinking.

That doesn't mean your local liquor store won't have bottles you can squirrel away. Reds are best bets. Those from France's Burgundy and Bordeaux regions, bigger-bones Spaniards, Italians from Tuscany, and California cult wines make good candidates for the cellar.

Italy's 2007 Ruffino Riserva Ducale Chianti Classico ($22.95 - $34.99) comes from a spectacular year and though it will taste great with pasta today, with its dense core of dark cherry fruit, anise and light herbal spice it will age nicely over the next ten years. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

Catch of the week

While you have more free time on weekends, the kitchen may be the last place you want to spend it This simple fish dish is the perfect quick meal

DINNER EXPRESS

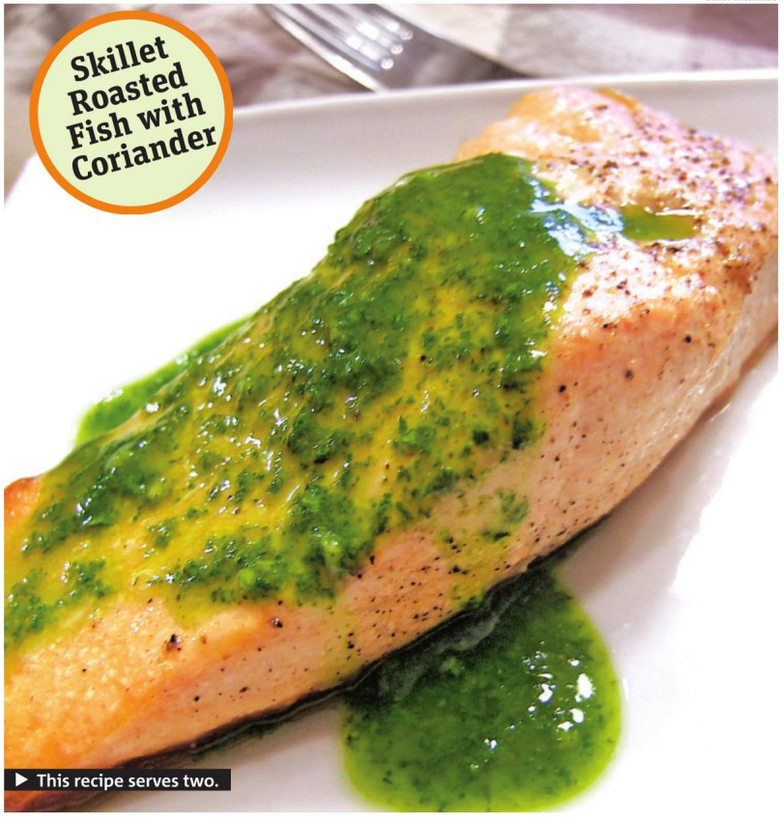
EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

For this dish, using salt in the skillet instead of oil helps to create heat.

It also allows you to cook with no added oil in the pan.

The salt is a essentially a hot bed in which to cook the salmon, and help the fish skin cook directly onto the salt for easy removal.

EMILY RICHARDS



▶ This recipe serves two.

Skillet Salt Roasted Fish with Coriander Drizzle Preparation:

1. In a skillet, spread kosher salt in a single layer and place it over medium-high heat for about 10 minutes or until the salt is hot to the touch.
2. Place the salmon fillets on top and brush tops with some of the oil. Sprinkle with pepper. Cover the skillet and cook for about 15 minutes or until firm to the touch. Remove the fish from heat and keep it covered for 3 minutes.
3. Remove the fish from the salt with spatula, leaving skin on salt.
4. In a blender, purée cilantro, garlic and remaining oil until it is smooth and add vinegar. Pour the mix over the salmon and sprinkle it with smoked salt to serve.

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A CELEBRITY TV CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA

Ingredients:

- 2 cups (500 mL) Kosher salt
- 2 salmon fillets, skin on (about 12 oz/375 g total)
- ¼ cup (50 mL) extra virgin olive oil
- Pinch pepper
- ½ cup (125 mL) fresh cilantro leaves
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) white wine vinegar or lime juice
- Pinch smoked salt

This sole recipe with creamy mushroom sauce offers a nutritious, delicious & easy dinner

THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Sole with Mushroom Sauce

▶ This recipe serves six.

Give the family a scrumptious sole dish for dinner that's great when served with oven-baked potato wedges.

Not only is the recipe low in fat and calories, it's also easy and quick to prepare.

Preparation:

1. In a shallow 2-l baking dish lightly coated with cooking spray, place fillets.
2. In a medium bowl, combine soup, cheese and sherry and spread evenly over fillets. Mix breadcrumbs and butter and sprinkle over fillets.
3. Bake in a 180 C (350 F) oven until fish is cooked through, about 30 minutes. Serve with potato wedges and asparagus or other green vegetable of your choice.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ CAMPBELL'S SOUP

Ingredients:

- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) fresh sole fillets
- Vegetable oil cooking spray
- 1 can (284 ml) condensed low-fat cream of mushroom soup
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) grated Parmesan cheese
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) dry sherry
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) dry breadcrumbs
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) butter or margarine, melted
- 1.5 l (6 cups) hot oven-baked potato wedges

3 life

Nordic super diet

Sweden is considered one of the world's healthiest nations.

Harley Pasternak, personal trainer to celebrities including Lady Gaga and Megan Fox, explains why the Swedes swear by dairy. "A great source of protein, vitamin C and D, dairy is often considered a fattening option and yet dairy also has high amounts of calcium, helping with fat metabolism."

The Swedish diet also consists of lots of heart-healthy fish, such as salmon and herring. Favoured are high-fibre, dark and dense breads and, instead of using two slices for a sandwich, open- faced versions using only one slice are popular.

METRO

O, tannenbaum, what have you wrought? Live, artificial tree marketers exchange barbs.

4 sports

Sports in brief

Three-time NL MVP Albert Pujols agreed Thursday to a $254-million US, 10-year contract with the Los Angeles Angels, leaving the World Series champion St. Louis Cardinals after more than a decade for a new baseball life in southern California.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canucks grit out a win

Vancouver comes back to nip Montreal in shootout ◆ Eighth win in nine game for Canucks

CANUCKS	CANADIENS
4	3

RICHARD WOLOWICZ/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Cody Hodgson scores the game-winning shootout goal on Carey Price on Thursday.

The Vancouver Canucks showed why they are one of the hottest teams in the NHL, and the Montreal Canadiens demonstrated why they are among the coldest.

Cody Hodgson scored in regulation time and again in a shootout as the streaking Canucks opened a five-game road trip with a comeback 4-3 victory over the Canadiens on Thursday night.

Hodgson was the only scorer in the shootout after the Canucks (17-10-1) erased a 3-0 deficit to post their eighth win in nine games.

"They were all over us but we showed some character, battled back hard and (goaltender Roberto Luongo) made some big saves," said Canucks forward Mason Raymond.

Rookie defencemen Frederic St-Denis and Raphael Diaz, and forward Erik Cole spotted Montreal a 3-0 lead by the 2:20 mark of the second period, but Vancouver stormed back with a short-handed goal by Raymond, a 4-on-4 score by Hodgson and Sami on a power play.

"It's disappointing, but it was simple — special teams," said Montreal coach Jacques Martin, whose club only had one win in its last seven games. "I think 5-on-5 we played well."

The Canadiens (11-11-7) lost in a shootout for the third time in their last four games and for a second game in a row. Montreal is 1-5 in shootouts this season. They have scored on only four of 20 shots, while Carey Price has allowed nine goals on 17 shootout shots.

"I'm going to take the heat for this," said Price. "It comes down to goaltending. I've got to figure out a way to get the wins."

Luongo, a Montreal native, ended up the winner despite a poor start that saw him give up goals on three of his first nine shots. At least two of them were soft, but he settled down with some good saves in the final two periods.

Price, a B.C. native, was the loser even though he made some exceptional saves, particularly early on. The Canucks held a 31-23 shot advantage.

"After the third goal I just wanted to shut the door and hopefully the boys would bail me out and they did," said Luongo. "It was nice to be able to make three saves and finally get a win in the shootout.

"We got that big short-handed goal in the second period and that kind of got us going. We've been a really good third-period team all year long and we knew that we could come back. And we got a huge goal early in the third and it really gave us the momentum."

Montreal captain Brian Gionta left in the third period with an undisclosed injury and did not return. Martin said he would be evaluated by doctors on Friday.

Salo tied the game with 4:40 left in regulation time on a blast from the point after Alexandre Burrows, perhaps with the help of some embellishment, drew a cross-checking penalty on Lars Eller.

It was a big night for Raymond, who played only his third game since returning from a fractured vertebra suffered during the Stanley Cup final.

He was put on the second line with centre Ryan Kesler and responded with his first goal of the season and by making the play that led to Hodgson's goal.

"I'm feeling pretty good," he said. "I'm continuing to get better.

"Unfortunately it takes games and more games to get really where you want to feel but I'm very pleased with where I'm at considering where I was."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA shoots down Paul deal between Hornets, Lakers

The NBA, owners of the New Orleans Hornets, refused Thursday to approve a three-team trade that would have sent Hornets all-star guard Chris Paul to the Los Angeles Lakers.

"It's not true that the owners killed the deal, the deal was never discussed at the Board of Governors meeting and the league office declined to make the trade for basketball reasons," league spokesman Mike Bass said.

Yahoo Sports reported that NBA commissioner David Stern killed the trade after several owners complained. Citing anonymous sources, Yahoo reported Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban was one of the most vocal owners upset about the deal, done the same day as the end of the lockout, which was supposed to restore competitive balance in the league.

The proposed deal would have sent Lamar Odom from the Lakers to New Orleans and four-time all-star Pau Gasol from the Lakers to Houston.

After it fell through, Paul simply wrote, "WoW," on his Twitter page.

The NBA's decision sets up an awfully awkward Friday.

A person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press that Paul will report to the Hornets on Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	27	17	7	2	1	96	79	37	7-4-1-1	10-3-1-0	7-3-0-0	W4
d-Florida	28	16	8	1	3	80	69	36	6-2-1-3	10-6-0-0	7-2-1-0	W3
d-Boston	27	17	9	0	1	89	56	35	10-6-0-1	7-3-0-0	7-2-0-1	L2
Pittsburgh	29	16	9	2	2	88	72	36	8-2-2-0	8-7-0-2	5-4-1-0	L2
NY Rangers	25	15	6	1	3	73	58	34	7-2-0-2	8-4-1-1	6-3-0-1	L2
Toronto	28	15	10	2	1	89	90	33	6-4-2-1	9-6-0-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Buffalo	27	14	11	1	1	76	74	30	6-8-1-1	8-3-0-0	3-5-1-1	L1
Ottawa	29	13	12	2	2	90	101	30	7-5-0-1	6-7-2-1	4-3-2-1	L2
Washington	27	14	12	0	1	84	87	29	9-4-0-1	5-8-0-0	4-6-0-0	W1
New Jersey	27	14	12	0	1	70	78	29	6-4-0-1	8-8-0-0	5-5-0-0	W2
Montreal	29	11	11	2	5	72	76	29	4-5-2-4	7-6-0-1	2-3-2-3	L2
Winnipeg	27	12	11	3	1	77	83	28	8-4-0-0	4-7-3-1	7-2-1-0	W3
Tampa Bay	28	12	14	0	2	73	91	26	7-4-0-0	5-10-0-2	3-7-0-0	W1
NY Islanders	26	9	11	4	2	59	82	24	6-6-3-0	3-5-1-2	4-3-2-1	L1
Carolina	30	9	17	2	2	77	104	22	5-9-0-2	4-8-2-0	3-7-0-0	W1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Minnesota	28	18	7	2	1	71	61	39	10-4-1-0	8-3-1-1	9-1-0-0	W5
d-Chicago	29	17	8	1	3	96	90	38	8-2-0-3	9-6-1-0	5-4-0-1	W1
d-Phoenix	28	15	10	1	2	76	72	33	6-5-1-1	9-5-0-1	5-5-0-0	L1
Detroit	27	17	9	1	0	82	61	35	11-2-1-0	6-7-0-0	8-2-0-0	W1
Vancouver	28	17	10	0	1	93	70	35	8-4-0-1	9-6-0-0	8-2-0-0	W3
St. Louis	28	16	9	0	3	70	62	35	10-3-0-1	6-6-0-2	6-2-0-2	W2
Dallas	26	15	10	0	1	69	72	31	9-4-0-1	6-6-0-0	4-5-0-1	L1
Los Angeles	27	13	10	2	2	62	61	30	8-7-0-1	5-3-2-1	5-4-1-0	L2
Nashville	28	13	11	3	1	74	77	30	4-5-2-1	9-6-1-0	3-6-1-0	W1
San Jose	24	14	9	1	0	68	58	29	7-6-1-0	7-3-0-0	5-5-0-0	L2
Edmonton	28	13	12	0	3	79	76	29	8-5-0-2	5-7-0-1	4-5-0-1	L2
Calgary	28	13	13	1	1	70	80	28	7-5-1-1	6-8-0-0	5-4-0-1	W2
Colorado	29	13	15	1	0	77	87	27	7-9-0-0	6-6-1-0	5-5-0-0	L2
Anaheim	28	8	15	2	3	65	92	21	6-9-1-0	2-6-1-3	2-7-1-0	L1
Columbus	28	8	16	1	3	68	94	20	5-7-1-1	3-9-0-2	4-3-2-1	L1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Vancouver 4 Montreal 3 (SO)
Calgary 3 Colorado 2
New Jersey 5 Ottawa 4 (SO)
Florida 2 Boston 0
Tampa Bay 3 N.Y. Rangers 2 (SO)
Nashville 4 Columbus 3 (OT)
St. Louis 4 Anaheim 2
Chicago 3 N.Y. Islanders 2 (OT)
Philadelphia 3 Pittsburgh 2
Detroit 5 Phoenix 2
Minnesota at Los Angeles
Dallas at San Jose
Wednesday's results
Carolina 5 Edmonton 3
Washington 5 Ottawa 3
Philadelphia 5 Buffalo 4 (OT)
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Toronto at Washington, 7 p.m.
Florida at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m.
Colorado at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Montreal at New Jersey, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Winnipeg at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Boston at Columbus, 7 p.m.
San Jose at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Anaheim at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 10 p.m.
Dallas at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday's games
Florida at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Chicago, 7 p.m.

DEVILS 5, SENATORS 4 (SO)

First Period
1. Ottawa, Michalek 18 (Spezza) 6:31
2. Ottawa, Foligno 10 (Cowen, Greening) 17:45
Penalty — Sykora NJ (double high-sticking) 11:54.
Second Period
3. Ottawa, Alfredsson 7 (Karlsson, Spezza) 9:41 (pp)
4. New Jersey, Parise 8 (Henrique) 14:59 (sh)
Penalties — Tedenby NJ (holding) 8:03, Sykora NJ (unsportsmanlike conduct) 8:49, Neil Ott (tripping) 11:56, New Jersey bench (too many men; served by Palmieri) 14:02.
Third Period
5. New Jersey, Zubrus 8 (Elias) 2:59 (sh)
6. New Jersey, Tedenby 1 (Clarkson, Larsson) 9:08
7. New Jersey, Kovalchuk 8 (Parise, Henrique) 9:45
8. Ottawa, Winchester 2 (Phillips, Alfredsson) 19:55 (sh)
Penalties — Winchester Ott (fighting), Carter NJ (roughing, fighting) 1:57, Foligno Ott (goaltender interference) 6:00, Konopka Ott (instigator, fighting, misconduct), Fraser NJ (fighting) 10:56, Smith Ott (slashing) 13:01, Michalek Ott, Carter NJ (roughing) 18:33, Karlsson Ott (tripping) 18:43.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout — New Jersey wins 3-2
Ott (2) — Michalek, miss; Spezza, goal; Alfredsson, goal; Rundblad, miss. **NJ** (3) — Kovalchuk, miss; Parise, goal; Elias, goal; Henrique, goal.
Shots on goal

Ottawa	9	7	11	2	—29
New Jersey	9	5	12	5	—31

Goal (shots-saves) — Ottawa: Auld (L,0-3-2); New Jersey: Brodeur (9-7), Hedberg (W,8-5-1)(start second)(20-18). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Ottawa: 1-6; New Jersey: 0-5.
Attendance — 13,743 (17,625)at Newark, N.J.

CANUCKS 4, CANADIENS 3 (SO)

First Period
1. Montreal, St-Denis 1 (Cammalleri, Plekanec) 4:38
2. Montreal, Diaz 2 (Pacioretty, Cole) 18:51
Penalties — Raymond Vcr (delay of game) 9:37, Subban Mtl (interference) 12:57, Gorges Mtl (cross-checking) 13:32.
Second Period
3. Montreal, Cole 9, 2:20
4. Vancouver, Raymond 1 (Hansen) 8:37 (sh)
Penalties — Kesler Vcr (hooking) 7:05, Wiese Vcr (goaltender interference) 12:48.
Third Period
5. Vancouver, Hodgson 6, 4:24
6. Vancouver, Salo 6 (H.Sedin, Kesler) 15:20 (pp)
Penalties — Emelin Mtl (holding stick) 3:53, D. Sedin Vcr (goaltender interference) 4:11, Eller Mtl (cross-checking) 14:40.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout — Vancouver wins 1-0
Mtl (0) — Desharnais, miss; Pacioetty, miss; Cammalleri, miss; **Van** (1) — Hodgson, goal; Kesler, miss.
Shots on goal

Vancouver	13	5	10	3	—31
Montreal	7	10	5	1	—23

Goal — Vancouver: Luongo (W,10-6-1), Montreal: Price (SOL,10-8-7). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Vancouver: 1-4; Montreal: 0-4.
Attendance — 21,273 (21,273) at Montreal.

FLAMES 3, AVALANCHE 2

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Kostopoulos Cal (holding) 6:11, Landeskog Col (holding stick) 7:09, Winnik Col (cross-checking) 19:05.
Second Period
1. Colorado, Duchene 10 (Hejda) 15:15
Penalties — Hejda Col (double high-sticking) 1:03, Stempniak Cal (hooking) 9:34, Johnson Col (holding) 16:15.
Third Period
2. Calgary, Stempniak 8 (Morrison, Butler) 6:21 (pp)
3. Calgary, Glencross 8 (Morrison, Stempniak) 7:47 (pp)
4. Colorado, Galiardi 4 (Hejduk) 9:58
5. Calgary, Jokinen 8 (Iginla, Glencross) 15:10
Penalties — Galiardi Col (double-high-sticking) 4:35, Yip Col (interference) 15:46.
Shots on goal

Colorado	10	15	10		—35
Calgary	4	5	9		—18

Goal — Colorado: Giguere (L,4-4-0); Calgary: Kiprusoff (W,13-9-1). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Colorado: 0-2; Calgary: 2-8.
Attendance — 19,289 (19,289) at Calgary.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Giroux, Pha	16	20	36
Kessel, Tor	17	18	35
D.Sedin, Vcr	12	21	33
Toews, Chi	17	15	32
Lupul, Tor	13	19	32
Stamkos, TB	16	14	30
Nugent-Hopkins, Edm	13	17	30
P.Kane, Chi	8	22	30
H.Sedin, Vcr	8	22	30
Weiss, Fla	11	18	29
Backstrom, Wash	10	19	29
Eberle, Edm	10	19	29
Pominville, Buf	9	20	29
Vanek, Buf	13	15	28
Fleischmann, Fla	12	16	28

Last night's games not included

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	9	3	0	.750	362	247
N.Y. Jets	7	5	0	.583	290	260
Buffalo	5	7	0	.417	278	304
Miami	4	8	0	.333	246	220

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	9	3	0	.750	310	189
Tennessee	7	5	0	.583	249	229
Jacksonville	3	9	0	.250	152	238
Indianapolis	0	12	0	.000	174	358

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	10	3	0	.769	282	198
Baltimore	9	3	0	.750	296	192
Cincinnati	7	5	0	.583	266	250
Cleveland	4	9	0	.308	178	254

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	7	5	0	.583	256	292
Oakland	7	5	0	.583	274	308
San Diego	5	7	0	.417	287	289
Kansas City	5	7	0	.417	163	268

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	7	5	0	.583	283	244
N.Y. Giants	6	6	0	.500	287	315
Philadelphia	4	8	0	.333	271	282
Washington	4	8	0	.333	202	256

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	9	3	0	.750	393	269
Atlanta	7	5	0	.583	269	244
Carolina	4	8	0	.333	290	324
Tampa Bay	4	8	0	.333	218	329

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Green Bay	12	0	0	1.000	420	262
Detroit	7	5	0	.583	333	277
Chicago	7	5	0	.583	291	242
Minnesota	2	10	0	.167	246	330

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-San Francisco	10	2	0	.833	288	161
Seattle	5	7	0	.417	216	246
Arizona	5	7	0	.417	232	269
St. Louis	2	10	0	.167	140	296

y-clinched division
WEEK 14
Last night's result
Pittsburgh 14 Cleveland 3
Sunday's games
All times Eastern
New Orleans at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Houston at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Miami, 1 p.m.
New England at Washington, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Chicago at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
Buffalo at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.
Oakland at Green Bay, 4:15 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Dallas, 8:20 p.m.
Monday's game
St. Louis at Seattle, 8:30 p.m.

SKIING

WORLD CUP

MEN'S SLALOM

At Beaver Creek, Colo.
1. Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, 1:50.20
2. Cristian Deville, Italy, 1:50.34
3. Marcel Hirscher, Austria, 1:50.68
4. Nolan Kasper, U.S., 1:50.90
5. Mitja Valencic, Slovenia, 1:51.05
6. Andre Myhrer, Sweden, 1:51.06
7. Patrick Thaler, Italy, 1:51.07
8. Manfred Moelgg, Italy, 1:51.13
9. Manfred Pranger, Austria, 1:51.24
10. Felix Neureuther, Germany, 1:51.26
11. Stefano Gross, Italy, 1:51.49
12. Wolfgang Hoerl, Austria, 1:51.67
13. Ted Ligety, U.S., 1:51.70
14. Jens Byggmark, Sweden, 1:51.78
15. Brad Spence, Calgary, 1:51.79
16. Markus Vogel, Switzerland, 1:51.88
17. Julien Cousineau, Lachute, Que., 1:51.98
18. Mario Matt, Austria, 1:52.02
19. Michael Janyk, Whistler, B.C., 1:52.09
20. Fritz Dopfer, Germany, 1:52.12
21. Leif Kristian Haugen, Norway, 1:52.15
22. Mattias Hargin, Sweden, 1:52.19
23. Christoph Dreier, Austria, 1:52.25
24. Markus Larsson, Sweden, 1:52.35
25. Benjamin Raich, Austria, 1:52.68
26. Giuliano Razzoli, Italy, 1:52.86
27. Bode Miller, U.S., 1:52.93
28. Steve Missillier, France, 1:52.94
29. Krystof Kryzl, Czech Republic, 1:53.39
30. Marc Berthod, Switzerland, 2:08.88
WORLD CUP SLALOM STANDINGS
(After 1 race)
1. Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, 100 points; 2. Cristian Deville, Italy, 80; 3. Marcel Hirscher, Austria, 60; 4. Nolan Kasper, U.S., 50; 5. Mitja Valencic, Slovenia, 45; 6. Andre Myhrer, Sweden, 40; 7. Patrick Thaler, Italy, 36; 8. Manfred Moelgg, Italy, 32; 9. Manfred Pranger, Austria, 29; 10. Felix Neureuther, Germany, 26.
WORLD CUP OVERALL STANDINGS
(After 8 races)
1. Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway, 334 points; 2. Ted Ligety, U.S., 309; 3. Marcel Hirscher, Austria, 280; 4. Didier Cuche, Switzerland, 268; 5. Beat Feuz, Switzerland, 260; 6. Hannes Reichelt, Austria, 227; 7. Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 205; 8. Bode Miller, U.S., 203; 9. Ivica Kostelic, Croatia, 170; 10. Alexis Pinturault, France, 163.

GOLF

DUBAI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

At Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Par 72
First Round

Peter Hanson	34-30—64
Paul Lawrie	32-33—65
Rory McIlory	36-30—66
Sergio Garcia	35-32—67
Ross Fisher	35-33—68
Robert Rock	35-33—68
Alvaro Quiros	33-35—68
Jaco Van Zyl	34-35—69
Shane Lowry	33-36—69
David Horsey	36-33—69
David Lynn	34-35—69
Thomas Aiken	34-35—69
Charl Schwartzel Africa	35-34—69
Gonzalo Fdez-Castano	34-36—70
Hennie Otto	37-33—70

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Acquired LHP Dana Eveland from L.A. Dodgers for LHP Jarret Martin & OF Tyler Henson. Designated RHP Willie Eyre for assignment. Selected LHP Andrew Loomis from Philadelphia & INF Matt Sweeney from Tampa Bay in Rule 5 draft. Sent INF Greg Miclat to Texas to complete trade for C Taylor Teagarden.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Selected LHP Cesar Cabral from Boston and LHP Thomas Melgarejo from the L.A. Dodgers in the Rule 5 draft.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS—Reached tentative understandings, pending physicals, with 1B Albert Pujols and LHP C.J. Wilson.
MINNESOTA TWINS—Acquired RHP Daniel Turpen from Colorado to complete the Kevin Slowey trade. Selected RHP Terry Doyle from the Chicago White Sox in the Rule 5 draft.
N.Y. YANKEES—Acquired LHP Cesar Cabral from Kansas City for cash considerations. Selected RHP Brad Meyers from Washington in the Rule 5 draft. Released OF Greg Golson.
TEXAS RANGERS—Assigned INF Greg Miclat to Frisco (Texas). Selected LHP Fabian Williamson from Oakland, OF Efrain Nunez from Seattle and INF Alex Buchholz from Cincinnati in the Rule 5 draft.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Selected INF Gabe Jacobo from the L.A. Angels in the Rule 5 draft.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

ATLANTA BRAVES—Selected LHP Robert Fish from the L.A. Angels in the Rule 5 draft.
CHICAGO CUBS—Selected INF Ricky Alvarez from the L.A. Angels in the Rule 5 draft.
HOUSTON ASTROS—Selected RHP Rhiner Cruz from the N.Y. Mets in the Rule 5 draft.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Aaron Harang on a 2-year contract.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Selected OF Erik Komatsu from Washington and LHP Barrett Browning from the L.A. Angels in Rule 5 draft.
SAN DIEGO PADRES—Selected INF Michael Wing from the L.A. Angels in the Rule 5 draft.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Selected C Beau Seabury from Colorado and RHP Matthew Buschmann from San Diego in Rule 5 draft.

FOOTBALL

CFL

TORONTO ARGONAUTS—Re-sign defensive backs coach Orlondo Steinauer and offensive line coach Steve McAdoo.

NFL

BUFFALO BILLS—Placed K Rian Lindell on injured reserve.

HOCKEY

NHL

LEAGUE OFFICE—Suspended Edmonton D Andy Sutton indefinitely for his hit on Carolina F Alexei Ponikarovsky in a game on Dec. 7.
MINNESOTA WILD—Recalled F Jeff Taffe from Houston (AHL). Placed F Devin Setoguchi on injured reserve.
OTTAWA SENATORS—Recalled D Matt Carkner from Binghamton (AHL).
PHOENIX COYOTES—Activated D Michal Rozsival from injured reserve.
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Recalled F Blair Jones from Norfolk (AHL).

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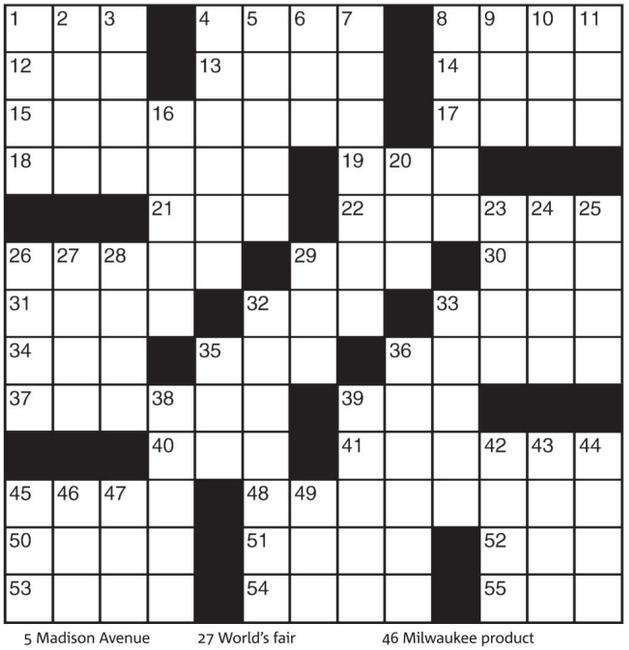
metro

Crossword



Across

1 Pickle holder
4 React in horror
8 Anything but that
12 Past
13 Concept
14 Stroll
15 Medium-sized dog
17 Without acting
18 To-do list
19 Every last crumb
21 Stimpy's cartoon pal
22 Lassie, e.g.
26 Pavarotti's range
29 A mere handful
30 Toss in
31 Nerve cell process
32 Carte lead-in
33 Turned blue?
34 Gas stat
35 Wall climber
36 Deep-voiced singer
37 "French" dog
39 Shriner's chapeau
40 "— the fields we go ..."
41 Anti-elderly prejudice
45 Satchmo's genre
48 Large terrier
50 Burn soother
51 Pesky insect
52 Silent
53 Night light?
54 Tackles' teammates
55 Crony

Down

1 — Pinkett Smith
2 Quite enthusiastic
3 Judicial garb
4 Construction piece
5 Madison Avenue worker
6 Vast expanse
7 Cure-all
8 Dungaree, for one
9 Owned
10 Under the weather
11 Heavens
16 Company that went under in 2001
20 Depressed
23 Pringles competitor
24 Bad day for Caesar
25 Taro root
26 Pack (down)
27 World's fair
28 "Forget it"
29 Aviate
32 Mean
33 In a stupor
35 — -de-France
36 Sires
38 Doughnut shop purchase
39 Capacitance measure
42 Poetic foot
43 Insult
44 Note to self
45 Van Eyck or Vermeer
46 Milwaukee product
47 Menagerie
49 Hostel

▶ Yesterday's answer

H	E	A	L		R	E	D	O		F	O	P
I	L	I	A		A	T	O	P		A	M	A
F	A	L	S	E	F	A	C	E		L	I	P
I	N	S	E	R	T			R	A	S	T	A
			R	R		E	V	A	D	E		
A	R	T	S		A	L	E		O	R	E	O
S	I	R			M	I	N			I	M	P
S	O	U	P		O	D	D		A	B	U	T
		E	R	A	S	E		M	E			
L	O	B	E	S			D	O	O	D	L	E
O	I	L		T	R	U	E	B	L	O	O	D
G	N	U		I	O	T	A		U	L	N	A
E	K	E		R	E	E	F		S	E	E	M

Sudoku

		7				8		
	5		8		3		7	
1	2						3	9
		4	9		7	3		
6								1
		3	1		6	7		
3	9						4	6
	4		5		2		8	
		2				5		

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

3	9	1	8	4	2	5	6	7
6	2	4	5	3	7	1	8	9
8	7	5	1	9	6	3	2	4
4	3	7	9	1	8	6	5	2
5	6	9	4	2	3	7	1	8
2	1	8	7	6	5	9	4	3
1	4	2	6	7	9	8	3	5
7	8	6	3	5	4	2	9	1
9	5	3	2	8	1	4	7	6

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

mikeyy,Happy anniversary! 39 months & more to come :) Thanks for always being there. You're the best. I love you so much! xox **BABUH**

Honeeey Bee, youre everything to me. youre my best friend, my lover, my shouldeer to cry on, my kawaii, my baby &my secret keeper. i know i can count on you for anything <3 i cant wait to see what thee future has instore for us. i love you &i mean it when i say it. xo. **LOVE BUG**

My darling, Prince Charming, I am happier and stronger now that I know for sure that I'm in your thoughts and dreams and that you really love me as I am in spite of the big gap between us! Next Wednesday you have to add one more candle! I bless the day I met you, you are the one that I am waiting for my whole life! love you, **C.L.**

Today 6°/1° Sunny
Saturday 5°/1° Rain or snow showers 80%
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Travel will be a lot of fun today but if you overdo it, tomorrow's lunar eclipse will bring you back to earth!

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Inner changes are making you rather touchy at the moment but, as always, the moment will pass.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You're in an assertive and adventurous mood, but some people may see you as too domineering.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 The approaching eclipse has got you in a bit of a tizzy. You may have to lie down for a bit to get your balance!

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 You will be enthusiastic about something you discover today but don't get carried away and preach to people.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 You may lose patience with someone you work with today, but they are not being obstructive for fun.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You're in one of those moods when you'll do anything for anyone. If not careful, you'll be taken advantage of.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 A financial opportunity will intrigue you, but is it the kind of thing you want to get involved in long-term?

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You may fall heavily for someone today, but don't get carried away because this is a passing fancy.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Certain duties may be tiresome but if you tackle them now, then your time will be your own.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 The approaching eclipse will bring more tension into your life but you have what it takes to handle it.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Family squabbles of one kind or another are likely over the next two or three days. **SALLY BROMPTON**

THANASSIS STAVRAKIS/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Caption contest

MICHAEL DURHAM, OREGON ZOO/ THE AP

WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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